

County Borough of Walsall

1931



1931

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1931

JAMES A. M. CLARK

M.D. CH.B., D.P.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30230317>

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

From November, 1930, to November, 1931.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN H. HUCKER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor R. B. SUTTON.

Councillor S. AMPHLET.
Councillor Mrs. G. CRESSWELL, J.P.
Councillor E. P. DRABBLE.
Councillor H. G. J. FLETCHER.
Councillor T. E. HADEN.

Councillor G. R. HAMSON.
Councillor Mrs. N. McSHANE.
Councillor C. S. MOORE
Councillor E. B. STAMMERS.
Councillor J. WHISTON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR T. E. HADEN.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. G. CRESSWELL, J.P.

Alderman J. A. LECKIE, J.P., M.P.
Councillor W. H. BAKER.
Councillor A. BROCKHURST, J.P.
Councillor E. P. DRABBLE.
Councillor D. JONES.

Councillor Mrs. N. McSHANE.
*Mrs. G. CRABTREE.
*Mrs. MARY B. DEWSBURY, J.P.
*Miss J. M. ELLIOT.

HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN H. HUCKER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor R. B. SUTTON.

Councillor H. G. J. FLETCHER.
Councillor Mrs. N. McSHANE.
Councillor J. WHISTON.

*Miss E. HOLLOWAY.
*Mr. W. C. WARD.
*Mr. H. B. WEBSTER.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN J. A. LECKIE, J.P., M.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor W. D. FORSYTH

Councillor A. BROCKHURST, J.P.
Councillor D. CARWRIGHT.
Councillor T. E. HADEN.
Councillor H. L. LESTER.
Councillor E. B. STAMMERS.
Councillor R. B. SUTTON.
Councillor J. WHISTON.

*Mrs. W. H. KEAY.
*Miss M. V. STAFFORD.
*Mr. H. Bullock.
*Mr. W. MILLERCHIP, J.P.
*Mr. H. SKEELS.
*Mr. H. A. TUCKER.

* Co-opted Members.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Assistant Medical Officer of Health :

J. W. HUNTER, M.D., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Appointed 22/7/31)

N. E. CHADWICK, M.D., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Resigned 31/7/31)

Assistant Medical Officers of Health :

M. R. HANNA, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

E. A. JOHNSTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 16/7/31)

School Medical Inspector :

LENA ADAM, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

School Dentist :

D. A. PARSONS, L.D.S.

Venereal Diseases Medical Officer :

§ A. M. STUART, F.R.C.S. (Ed'n.)

Public Analyst :

§ F. E. THOMPSON, F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

*†ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE.

Assistant Inspectors :

*†ERNEST F. B. A. MINER (Chief) Meat Inspector.

*†CHARLES A. STANSBURY (Housing Inspector).

*†JOHN SAVILLE (Bloxwich and Leamore Wards).

*WILLIAM J. WOODWARD (Bridge and Caldmore Wards).

*IDWAL W. RICHARDS (Birchills and Pleck Wards).

†*JONATHAN HOLDSWORTH (Hatherton and Paddock Wards).

Superintendent Health Visitor and Inspector of Midwives :

‡*Mrs. A. SAUNDERS, H.V.

Health Visitors :

**‡Miss E. BETTERIDGE

‡Mrs. E. A. DOLMAN (Resigned 31/1/31)

‡Miss E. G. JONES

**‡ " A. M. JONES (Appointed 16/3/31)

** " E. M. O'KELLY

**‡ " S. A. NOLAN (Appointed 9/11/31)

**Miss A. QUICK

‡ " A. E. ROGERS

" G. N. SADLER

‡Mrs. M. TAYLOR

**‡Miss R. P. TAYLOR

‡ " E. WIDDOWSON

School Nurses :

Mrs. M. EVANS.

Miss F. SAUNDERS.

School Dental Nurse :

Miss B. L. BENNETT.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—continued.

Isolation Hospital:

MATRON:—Miss M. J. Bird, S.R.N.

Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital:

‡ MATRON:—Miss E. WILKINSON, S.R.N.

Pelsall Hall Sanatorium:

MATRON — Miss E. A. BRADSHAW, R.R.C., S.R.N.

Secretary Dispenser:

Miss G. COTTERELL.

Chief Clerk and Vaccination Officer:

P. SHOESMITH

Clerical Staff:

N. AULIFFE.

H. ARCHER.

Miss A. M. TURNER.

G. LEEDER.

F. WEBB

Miss M. E. A. TURNPENNY (Resigned 28/2/31)

Miss M. HILL (Resigned 7/11/31)

" M. COOPER (Appointed 26/2/31)

" M. TAYLOR (Appointed 30/11/31) R. FRANKHAM

§ The V.D Medical Officer and Public Analyst are part-time Officers.

* Certificate as Sanitary Inspector.

† Certificate as Meat Inspector.

‡ Certified Midwife.

** Health Visitor's Certificate.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the County Borough of Walsall for the year 1931.

This report is prepared in accordance with Circular 1206 of the Ministry of Health.

On the 1st April, 1931, the borough was extended to include parts of the parishes of Bentley, Great Barr and Rushall, in the rural district of Walsall, and small portions of the County Borough of West Bromwich and of the Borough of Wednesbury. This extension added to the Borough an area of 1,297 acres and an estimated population of 820 persons.

The population as disclosed by the Census of 1931, was 103,102 but the population at June 30th, 1931 as estimated by the Registrar General was 104,300. This latter figure, however, has not been used in calculating the Birth and Death Rates but the modified figure of 104,100 has been taken, the adjustment being made on account of the extension of the Borough from April 1st.

The Birth Rate shows a slight decrease being 19.54 per 1,000 of the population as against 20.56 in 1930 and an average of 20.19 during the past five years.

The number of marriages shows a slight decrease, being 1,219 as against 1,250 in 1930, and 1,264 in 1929.

The Death Rate shows a slight increase being 11.32 per 1,000 as against 11.16 in 1930, and 15.12 in 1929.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate (all forms) shows a decrease over that of last year, being 1.03 as against 1.11 in 1930, whilst the death rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis has fallen from 0.98 in 1930 to 0.93 in 1931.

Pneumonia accounted for 88 deaths, or 0.84 as against 78 or 0.78 per 1,000 in 1930.

Bronchitis accounted for 88 deaths as against 77 in 1930.

Cancer and Malignant Disease caused 120 deaths—a death rate of 1.15 as against 114 deaths in the previous year.

From the point of view of our Vital Statistics, 1931 has been quite a healthy year, the Death Rate of 11.32 per 1,000 is but very slightly higher than that of the previous year when the death rate of 11.16 was the lowest yet recorded. The Infantile Mortality Rate of 73.75 per 1,000 births is but slightly higher than that of the previous year when the low record of 69.00 was established.

A considerable amount of work has again been carried out by the Sanitary Department, and I would call your attention to the detailed analysis of the work given in this report. Definite progress is at last being made in the work of Slum Clearance.

Reference may be made to the provision of an additional Welfare Centre, the Ida Road Welfare Centre in the midst of a new Housing estate in Pleck Ward, which was opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. W. D. Forsyth) on June 4th, 1931. An additional Medical Officer was appointed to the staff of the Health Department in July, 1931 and at the same time an additional Health Visitor was also appointed.

These additional appointments have enabled us to undertake a great deal of very necessary work in connection more particularly with the Maternity and Child Welfare services.

During the past year a number of new schemes in connection with the Health Services of the Borough have been under consideration. The provision of a block at Goscote Isolation Hospital for the accommodation of cases of Tuberculosis has been approved in principle by the Council, the formal sanction of the Ministry of Health has not yet been received.

The provision of a Mortuary at Manor Hospital to take the place of the two public mortuaries in the Borough and the Mortuary at the Manor Hospital has received the consideration of both the Public Assistance Committee and the Health Committee, but no decision has yet been arrived at. One can only state that the condition of all the three mortuaries is not a credit to the town.

The provision of efficient X-Ray equipment at the Manor Hospital which would be utilised not only by the Manor Hospital but also by the various public health services of the Borough is still under consideration. A modern and efficient X-ray apparatus is an essential part of the equipment of any up-to-date General Hospital.

Your Medical Officer of Health, on the coming into operation of the Local Government Act, 1929 was appointed Principal Medical Officer to the Public Assistance Committee, but as yet his duties in connection with that appointment have not been defined and the position still remains a purely nominal one.

There are now four hospitals under the control of the Council; these are managed by three entirely separate and distinct Committees whose outlook and whose interest must be anything but impartial. There are many anomalies in the present position and effective co-ordination is lacking.

In conclusion I would take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Town Council and more particularly the members of the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for their kindly encouragement and help. I have also to thank the members of my staff for their loyal co-operation and enthusiasm. The work of the Department has been carried out with the utmost smoothness and to this I am indebted to the way in which every individual member of my staff has carried out his or her allotted task. They have my best thanks.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1932.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,790
Population (At Census 1931)	..	..	..	..	..	..	103,102
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	}	At		..	..	19,344
Number of Families	..		1921 Census		..	..	20,728
Population 1931 (estimated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	104,300
Population for Birth and Death Rates	..	..	..	..	..	..	104,100
Number of New Houses erected in 1931			..	..	..	..	709
Number of Inhabited Houses 1931		..	..	..	..	..	23,818
Number of Persons per House	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.38
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£429,292
Sum represented by a Penny Rate		..	..	..	..	..	£1,625
Population per acre	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.87
Number of Marriages in Walsall Registration District	..	..					1,219

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Number of Births	}	Legitimate	M. 1,031	F. 943	Total	1,974
		Illegitimate	M. 30	F. 30	Total	60
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	19.54
Number of Deaths (M. 644 F. 534)	..	..	..	..	Total	1,178
Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	11.32
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of, Childbirth—						
From Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	2
From other causes	..	..	..	..	..	4
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 births	..	..	..	..	..	2.95
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	..	150
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births	..	..	..	..	..	73.75
Death Rates per 1,000 population, from—						
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	0.93
All forms of tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	1.03
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	..	1.78
Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	1.15
Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases (Smallpox, Enteric						
Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough,						
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup						
	..	..				0.40

Death Rate from Diarrhœa and Enteritis of Children under 2 years of age, per 1,000 births	9.83
Deaths from Diarrhœa under 2 years	20
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	21
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	8

CORONER'S INQUESTS.—112 Inquests were held in the Borough during the year (71 males and 41 females)—1 stillborn, 10 under the age of one year, 19 between the ages of 1 and 16 years, and 82 from 16 years and above.

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS ordered by Coroner 61

SUMMARY OF INQUESTS.

	M.	F.
Death by Murder	—	—
" Suicide	5	2
" Manslaughter and Infanticide	—	—
" Want, Exposure, etc.	—	—
" Excessive Drinking	—	—
" Want of attention at Birth	—	—
" Accident or Misadventure	35	16
" from Natural Causes	30	22
Stillborn	—	1
Open Verdicts	1	—
	<hr/> 71	<hr/> 41

Inquests on children suffocated whilst in bed (Accidental) — —

Inquests on bodies of newly-born children 1 —

MARRIAGES.

There is a decrease in the number of Marriages this year, 1,219 taking place, whilst last year 1,250 were contracted.

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the Borough during the year was 2,071, of which 1,084 were males and 987 were females. These are the crude figures, and allowance has to be made for births to non-residents occurring in Walsall, and for births to residents whilst the latter were temporarily staying in some other town.

The correct figures are : Males 1,061, Females 973; giving a new total of 2,034 equivalent to a Birth Rate of 19.54 per 1,000. Of this number 60 were illegitimate births, as compared with 54 during 1930.

The average Birth Rate for the last five years is 20.19.

The following stillbirths, corrected figures, are allocated to the Borough :

Males	..	..	..	44
Females	..	..	..	33
				—
Total	..	..		77
				—

Of this number, 4 males were illegitimate.

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered during the year was 1,230, giving a rate per thousand of the population of 11.82 (an increase on the previous year, when we had 1,176 deaths, with a rate of 11.75). If we exclude the number of persons (121) dying in the Borough belonging to other districts, and include (69), those belonging to the Borough dying beyond the Borough we have a correct number of 1,178, giving a death rate of 11.32. The average death rate for the past five years is 12.49.

Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages, of residents belonging to the Borough :—

At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards
1178	150	27	32	44	48	139	268	236	234

VACCINATIONS.

The total number of successful Vaccinations carried out during 1931 was 411. Number of statutory declarations of conscientious objection made during the same period was 1,660.

Table I.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1931.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents " whether occurring within or without the District.										WARDS. Net Deaths at all Ages of " Residents "belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.						Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	BLOXWICH.	LEAMORE.	BIRCHILLS.	HATHERTON.	PADDOCK.	BRIDGE.		PLECK.	CALDMORE.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and un. 2 yrs.	2 and un. 5 yrs.	5 and un. 15 yrs.	15 and un. 25 yrs.	25 and un. 45 yrs.	45 and un. 65 yrs.	65 and un. 75 yrs.	75 and upwards.									
Enteric Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	1	..	..	..	1
Measles	21	5	6	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	2	1	8	5
Scarlet Fever	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	8	3	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	1	1	..	..	1
Diphtheria	11	..	2	3	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	4	2	1	..	1	..	3	9
Influenza	27	..	..	..	1	..	7	7	6	6	..	3	5	4	4	2	..	5	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	97	..	..	..	2	18	48	24	5	..	..	7	12	16	14	7	13	17	17
Other Tuberculous Diseases	10	2	2	1	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	1	..	2	1	12

Table II.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH, 1931.

As furnished by the Registrar-General.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES	M. F.	644 534	83 67	20 7	15 17	27 17	28 20	73 66	154 114	123 113	121 113
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —
2. Measles	M. F.	9 12	2 3	3 3	2 5	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
3. Scarlet Fever	M. F.	1 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
4. Whooping Cough	M. F.	7 1	3 —	2 —	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Diphtheria	M. F.	6 5	— —	1 1	3 —	1 4	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —
6. Influenza	M. F.	15 12	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	6 1	4 3	2 4	3 3
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M. F.	2 1	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M. F.	57 40	— —	— —	— —	— 2	1 9	25 23	19 5	4 1	— —
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M. F.	7 3	1 1	1 1	1 —	3 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —
11. Syphilis	M. F.	1 2	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 3	— —	— —
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	M. F.	3 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
13. Cancer, malignant disease	M. F.	68 52	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	5 6	34 28	17 14	12 4
14. Diabetes	M. F.	2 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —

Table III.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1931.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.												TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.										Total Deaths	
	At All Ages.	At Ages — Years.											1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.												65 and upwards.
Small-Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera (C.) Plague (P.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	122	2	5	4	7	5	62	12	9	12	2	2	—	21	38	8	5	5	20	10	15	—	—	11
Erysipelas	26	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	10	—	8	2	7	6	3	1	2	2	4	1	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever	144	2	2	7	8	8	50	46	7	13	1	—	—	9	24	8	5	11	11	46	30	—	—	1
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.

Showing birth rates, death rates from all causes, from tuberculosis of the lungs, respiratory diseases and malignant diseases, together with infantile mortality and infantile diarrhoea death rates per 1,000 births.

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death Rates per 1,000 population from			Infantile Diarrhoea Death Rate per 1,000 Births	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births England and Wales	Maternal Mortality per 1,000 Births
				Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	Malignant Diseases			
1890	..	35.24	19.05	0.90	3.99	—	—	151	—
1891	..	36.43	19.00	0.86	4.30	—	—	149	—
1892	..	36.79	20.83	1.19	5.75	—	—	148	—
1893	..	37.50	24.42	1.24	5.53	—	—	159	—
1894	..	34.26	16.44	1.17	3.96	—	—	137	—
1895	..	34.26	20.56	1.21	5.18	—	38.78	161	—
Average 6 years		35.75	20.05	1.09	4.78	—	—	151	—
1896	..	34.52	18.48	1.24	4.10	—	15.59	148	—
1897	..	34.38	20.82	1.21	4.16	—	39.26	156	—
1898	..	36.06	18.55	1.20	3.54	—	25.33	160	—
1899	..	33.78	19.48	1.49	3.47	—	38.16	163	—
1900	..	34.02	20.21	1.34	4.01	0.56	27.29	154	4.90
Average 5 years		34.55	19.51	1.30	3.86	—	29.13	156	—
1901	..	34.19	17.59	1.56	2.53	0.51	33.13	151	4.06
1902	..	34.77	16.24	1.20	2.94	0.58	25.63	133	0.66
1903	..	34.50	17.18	1.59	3.30	0.60	25.21	132	4.91
1904	..	33.43	18.55	1.56	3.37	0.58	40.21	145	3.99
1905	..	30.10	14.27	1.56	2.49	0.56	30.32	128	3.25
Average 5 years		33.40	16.77	1.49	2.93	0.57	30.90	138	3.37
1906	..	29.89	14.89	1.24	2.55	0.51	36.14	132	2.84
1907	..	29.76	15.14	1.33	2.86	0.60	35.27	118	2.80
1908	..	29.54	14.78	1.60	2.73	0.62	28.03	120	1.38
1909	..	28.08	14.27	1.18	3.02	0.81	20.41	109	3.58
1910	..	26.99	12.15	0.93	2.06	0.74	10.63	105	3.67
Average 5 years		28.85	14.25	1.26	2.64	0.66	26.10	117	2.85

1911	92,130	30-21	16-52	1-14	2-49	0-75	40-53	152-08	130	5-37
1912	92,868	29-36	15-44	1-18	3-14	0-85	15-73	131-64	95	3-29
1913	93,477	29-80	17-15	1-29	2-99	0-77	37-32	156-75	108	2-50
1914	94,093	29-42	15-01	1-22	2-56	0-91	22-01	115-92	105	4-69
1915	92,045	27-22	16-97	1-52	3-12	0-76	25-77	149-06	110	2-34
Average 5 years		29-20	16-22	1-27	2-86	0-81	28-27	141-09	110	3-64
1916	89,506	25-82	16-38	1-73	2-94	0-94	15-50	112-12	91	4-37
1917	87,957	21-94	15-96	1-49	2-98	1-02	7-43	110-59	96	3-25
1918	87,635	20-72	20-39	1-49	4-40	0-99	11-45	110-55	97	4-79
1919	92,724	21-71	14-58	1-15	3-27	0-81	11-99	103-36	89	5-70
1920	96,419	30-97	13-32	0-79	2-63	0-94	13-43	100-77	80	4-70
Average 5 years		24-23	16-13	1-33	3-24	0-94	11-96	107-48	91	4-56
1921	98,800	27-98	13-38	0-93	2-38	0-91	22-40	112-83	83	2-53
1922	99,890	25-32	12-89	1-29	2-35	1-01	6-30	94-91	77	3-54
1923	100,400	23-32	11-68	0-92	2-10	1-07	11-96	93-93	69	1-7
1924	101,500	23-31	11-91	0-89	2-21	0-92	5-09	78-09	75	5-9
1925	102,300	22-06	13-58	0-99	2-76	0-97	14-62	115-19	75	6-2
Average 5 years		24-40	12-69	1-00	2-36	0-98	12-07	93-99	76	3-97
1926	102,100	21-09	11-51	0-84	1-90	1-16	11-61	83-56	70	5-1
1927	102,000	20-83	12-74	0-97	2-22	1-09	6-12	96-47	69	4-2
1928	100,200	20-27	12-10	1-03	1-57	1-23	11-82	92-07	65	3-9
1929	100,100	19-77	15-12	1-04	2-93	1-24	12-13	100-05	74	5-0
1930	100,100	20-56	11-16	0-98	1-67	1-14	6-80	69-00	60	5-3
Average 5 years		20-50	12-53	0-97	2-06	1-17	9-70	88-23	68	4-7
1931	104,300	19-54	11-32	0-93	1-78	1-15	9-83	73-75	66	2-9

NET DEATHS FROM SEVERAL CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 15 YEARS

Cause of Death	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4-5 weeks	6 months	9 months	1 year	1 year and over	Birth	Infants	Children	Adults	Total
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	..	1	..	1	..	2
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..
Other Common Infectious Diseases ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	..
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	1	1	1	3	7	4	4	..	3	2	5	..	3
Premature Birth ..	34	4	1	4	2	..	2	47	6	9	10	8	5
Congenital Defects, Atelectasis, Malformations	6	2	1	1	10	3	..	14	..	2	3	..	2
Congenital Debility, Sclerema and Icterus..	3	..	1	4	5	2	1	12	..	3	2	2	1
Percentage of Developmental and Wasting Diseases ..	91.5	77.7	80.0	77.7	87.1	46.2	24.0	41.2	67.3	..	..	..	..
Tubercular Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	1	..	..
Convulsions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ..	..	1	1	3	4	6	17	7	3	7	6	3	4
Other Causes ..	4	1	..	1	6	1	1	9	2	..	1	..	2
TOTALS ..	47	9	5	9	70	25	13	17	15	28	26	15	19

Net Births in the Year — Legitimate, 1,974; Illegitimate, 60 Net Deaths in the Year of Legitimate Infants, 147; Illegitimate Infants, 3

Table VI.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1931 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number	NETT.		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At All Ages.	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1922	99,890	2539	2530	25.32	1291	12.92	66	63	241	94.91	1288	12.89
1923	100,400	2335	2342	23.32	1175	11.70	45	43	220	93.93	1173	11.68
1924	101,500	2375	2356	23.31	1220	12.01	70	59	184	78.09	1209	11.91
1925	102,300	2248	2257	22.06	1377	14.43	63	76	260	115.19	1390	13.58
1926	102,100	2149	2154	21.09	1155	11.31	92	71	180	83.56	1176.	11.51
1927	102,000	2144	2125	20.83	1277	12.51	81	104	205	96.47	1300	12.74
1928	100,200	2048	2031	20.27	1210	12.08	98	100	187	92.07	1212	12.10
1929	100,100	2008	1979	19.77	1516	15.14	78	76	198	100.05	1514	15.12
1930	100,100	2115	2058	20.56	1176	11.75	110	51	142	69.00	1117	11.16
1931	104,300	2071	2034	19.54	1230	11.82	121	69	159	73.75	1178	11.32

Area of District in Acres
(exclusive of area covered by water)

.. 8,790

Total Population at all ages .. 103,102

At Census of 1931.

Table VII.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the Year 1931.

As furnished by the Registrar-General.

TABLE SHOWING DEATH-RATES, ETC., IN WALSALL, as compared with England and Wales, 107 Great Towns, 159 Smaller Towns and London. (The rates have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1930.)

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.							RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.			PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M., no inquest.	Uncertified Cause of Death.
ENGLAND AND WALES ..	15.8	0.67	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.06	0.07	0.36	0.54	6.0	66	91.18	6.17	1.70	0.95
107 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000) ..	16.0	0.67	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.01	0.07	0.08	0.33	0.48	8.4	71	91.43	5.84	2.24	0.49
159 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000—50,000) ..	15.6	0.73	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.36	0.43	4.0	62	92.17	5.49	1.25	1.09
London ..	15.0	0.50	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.26	0.57	9.7	65	89.52	6.23	4.24	0.01
WALSALL ..	19.5	0.74	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.01	0.03	0.11	0.26	0.44	9.8	74	90.41	6.51	0.0	0.09

HOSPITALS, CLINICS, NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, AMBULANCE FACILITIES, Etc.

Hospitals.

1. Walsall General Hospital—A voluntary Institution (100 beds).
2. Manor Hospital—Public Assistance Committee (300 beds).
3. Walsall Isolation Hospital—Health Committee (34 beds).
4. Sneyd Lane Isolation Hospital (Smallpox)—Health Committee (12 beds).
5. Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (11 beds).
6. Pelsall Hall Sanatorium (Tuberculosis)—Health Committee (43 beds).

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Cripples Hospital, Birmingham, for the hospital treatment of our cases of Surgical Tuberculosis, nine beds being reserved at The Woodlands, additional beds being provided as required.

MATERNITY.—Certain cases of Puerperal Fever and also certain of those cases necessitating surgical interference at confinement are received at the Walsall General Hospital by arrangement with the Council, who bear the cost of their treatment. Cases are also admitted to the Walsall Isolation Hospital.

CHILDREN.—Nil.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE AND HOMELESS CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICT.—None except that which comes under the Poor Law Institution.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious disease cases two motor ambulances have been provided. One is kept at the Epidemic Hospital, Hospital Street, and the other at the Isolation Hospital.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases two motor ambulances are kept at the Fire Station.

School Clinics.

Three School Clinics are provided—at Bradford Street, Littleton Street, and at Field Road, Bloxwich.

BRADFORD STREET. Doctors' days—Monday and Wednesday afternoon; a nurse in attendance each morning, and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

LITTLETON STREET. Doctors' days—Tuesday and Friday afternoon ; nurse in attendance each morning.

FIELD ROAD. Doctors' days—Friday afternoon; nurse in attendance Monday and Wednesday.

The Dental Clinic and the Eye Clinic are both held at Bradford Street.

Rheumatic Clinic.

LITTLETON STREET. Saturday, 10 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

Orthopædic Clinic.

MASSAGE CLINIC. Daily 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
2 p.m.—5 p.m.

DRESSINGS CLINIC. Friday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centres.

ABLEWELL STREET. Monday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Friday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.

FIELD ROAD. Tuesday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Thursday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Friday, 10-30—12-30 a.m.

IDA ROAD. Monday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Wednesday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.

LITTLETON STREET. Wednesday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Friday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.

MILTON STREET. Tuesday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.
Thursday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

ABLEWELL STREET. Monday, 10 a.m.

IDA ROAD. Friday, 1st and 3rd in each month. 10 a.m.

MILTON STREET. Friday, 2nd & 4th in each month. 10 a.m.

FIELD ROAD. Wednesday, 10 a.m.

A Medical Officer attends all Infant Welfare Sessions and Ante-Natal Clinics.

Tuberculosis Dispensary, 4, St. Paul's Terrace.

Open each day 10 a.m.—1 p.m. ; 2-15—5-30 p.m.

Medical Clinics, Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning, Thursday evening (1st and 3rd Thursdays, 6-30—8 p.m.), Friday morning.

V.D. Clinic, Walsall General Hospital.

Open for Males, Tuesdays and Fridays, 7-30 to 9 p.m., Wednesday 4 p.m.

Open for Females, Thursday, 4-0—5-30 p.m.

Ultra Violet Light Clinic.

Tuberculosis Dispensary . . . Tuesday, 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) General—Victoria Nursing Institution.

(b) Infectious Diseases—None.

MIDWIVES.—Thirty-four Midwives notified their intention to practise in the District during 1931. Four of these were employed by the Public Authority at the Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital. No Midwives were subsidised by the Council.

Laboratory Work.

During the year, 707 specimens were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and 2,394 swabs for the presence of B. Diphtheria were examined at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, St. Paul's Terrace.

All other Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Birmingham University.

Chemical Work.

All chemical analyses are carried out by the Public Analyst, and for particulars of the work done during the year reference should be made to his report at the end of this volume.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICERS' SUPERANNUATION ACT.

Under this Act all employees have to pass a medical examination before being taken on the permanent staff.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Referee for the Corporation.

During the year 35 persons were examined prior to their appointment, and were passed as satisfactory lives.

OTHER MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

121 employees were examined on behalf of the Tramways Committee as to their fitness to act as Tram or 'Bus Drivers.

All candidates for the Police Force are examined by the Medical Officer of Health, whose services were also requisitioned by the Police on many other occasions.

CARE OF THE BLIND.

There are 125 Blind Persons on the register of the Blind for the County Borough of Walsall, the details as to numbers and classification being set out in Tables A and B. Of that number 15 are school children under the age of 16, 13 of whom are in special schools. 63 persons are unemployable; of the others 37 are employed in various occupations (Table III(b)) and 6 are under training.

Certain of the arrangements for looking after the interests of the Blind persons are carried out by the Blind Persons Welfare Committee, or on their behalf by the Walsall, Wednesbury and District Society for the Blind, and the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind.

Twenty-two of our Walsall Blind are employed in the local Workshops. These Workshops are by no means satisfactory, and there is much room for improvement. The question of provision of new workshops on a new site is under consideration.

Home workers are dealt with by the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind. During 1931 there were two Home Teachers, who looked after all blind persons in both the Walsall and Wednesbury areas.

UNEMPLOYABLE BLIND.

The Town Council augment the income of each of the 26 unemployable persons in the Borough who are of full age, to 16 - per week, and the Home Visitors have been instructed when distributing this grant to enquire if they are as reasonably comfortable as possible, and if conditions are unsatisfactory to report the same to the local Blind Society and the Blind Persons Welfare Committee. It is the aim of the Blind Persons Welfare Committee to prevent any further cases of unemployable blind finding it requisite to have out-door poor relief, as it is undesirable to add to their distress by the so-called stigma of pauperism.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBERS AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE
BLIND IN THE BOROUGH AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1931.

M—Males.
F—Females.
T—Total.

Table I.—AGE PERIOD.

Age Period 0—1			Age Period 1—5			Age Period 5—16			Age Period 16—21			Age Period 21—50			Age Period 50—70			Age Period 70			Total		
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
0	0	0	1	1	2	9	6	15	5	2	7	20	13	33	31	21	52	8	8	16	74	51	125

Table II.—AGE INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS.

Age Period 0—1			Age Period 1—5			Age Period 5—16			Age Period 16—21			Age Period 21—50			Age Period 50—70			Unknown	Total	
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.			
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	—	125	
11	13	24	6	2	8	12	4	16	1	2	3	20	13	33	21	11	32			4	5	9

Table III.—(a) EMPLOYMENT. AGE PERIOD 16 AND UPWARDS.

Employed		Trained but unemployed.		Under Training.		No Training but Trainable.		Unemployable.		TOTAL.		Children.			
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
29	8	—	—	3	3	—	2	2	2	35	28	63	41	108	17
												—	125		

M—Males.
F—Females.
T—Total.

Return showing the Numbers and Classification of the Blind in the
Borough, as at 31st December, 1931 — continued.

Table III. (b). OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED.

Agents, Collectors, etc	Basket and Cane Workers	Boot Repairs.	Brush Makers.	Clerks, Typists.	Dealers (Tea Agents, Shopkeepers, &c.	Hawkers.	Home Teachers.	Knitters.	Mat-Makers.	Mattress-Makers.	Musicians and Music Teachers.	Net Makers.	Seamstresses and Upholsterers.	Straw and String Bag Makers.	Turners.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
1	18	1	..	1	1	..	1	3	8	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	37

Table IV. PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.

Mentally Defective (a).			Physically Defective (b).			Deaf (c).			Combinations of (a) (b) & (c).					TOTAL.	
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	M.	T.
3	6	9	5	7	12	2	6	8	..	..	..	..	..	10	19
															29

Table V. SCHOOL AGE PERIOD (5—16) ACCORDING TO MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DEFECTS.

Mentally Defective (a).			Physically Defective (b).			Deaf (c).			Combinations of (a), (b) and (c).			Total Defectives.	Percentage of Defectives in Total.
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.		
8	5	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	Nil

NOT AT SCHOOL.

—	—	1	..	1	..	1	2	100
---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	----	----	----	----	---	-----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Isolation Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital, Goscote, which was opened on April 1st, 1930 has experienced another very full year.

On frequent occasions during the year, there has been very great pressure on the accommodation, and very frequently additional beds have had to be provided. The largest number of patients in residence at any one time was 70 on February 19th, 1931, the lowest number being 17 in May. The average number of beds occupied throughout the year was 32.2.

As the recognised accommodation is only 34 beds, we are staffed accordingly, and consequently a considerable strain is put upon the nursing staff when they have to deal with such a large number of patients as 70, and they are in danger of suffering in health from such a prolonged strain as is involved in the treatment of acute infectious disease. Full justice cannot be done to the patients when the wards are overcrowded.

The addition of another ward of 25 to 35 beds as was included in the original scheme would be invaluable and would relieve everyone of much anxiety. When the staff is overworked and the wards too crowded there is much greater danger of cross infection occurring and of complications arising.

There is no doubt but that an additional ward will have to be provided so soon as circumstances will permit.

A proposal to erect a block of 24 beds for the treatment of cases of Tuberculosis was approved by the Council in July 1931, but at the moment of writing we still await the approval of the Ministry of Health. There is a very real and urgent need for such a block.

At the end of this section of the report will be found a table dealing with the admission of cases to the new Isolation Hospital, and the results of treatment there.

The particulars of the various infectious diseases with which we are concerned are as follows ;—

Smallpox.—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria.—122 cases were notified throughout the year, compared with 151 in 1930. The cases were fairly evenly distributed throughout the town, Leamore ward being highest with 38 cases.

During the first quarter 52 cases were notified, 31 in the second quarter, 19 in the third quarter and 20 in the fourth quarter.

There were 11 deaths from the disease as against 12 in 1930, a case mortality of 9.02% as against 7.95% in 1930.

121 cases and 44 contacts were admitted to the Walsall Isolation Hospital.

The immunisation of children against Diphtheria was continued throughout the year. All the schools in the Borough were visited and in addition facilities are provided at the various Welfare Centres. A total of 1,691 children were treated for the first time, and 929 who had been previously treated were retested. Of 573 children who had in previous years reacted to the test and had received a full course of immunising doses, and who were retested during 1931, 76 again reacted to the test showing that immunity to the disease had not yet been established. In the other 497 immunity had been established.

7,312 children and adults have been dealt with during the past four years, and 4,900 have been immunised against the disease.

Full details of our activities in the prevention of Diphtheria will be found in my report as School Medical Officer to the Education Committee and reference should be made to the section of the report dealing with this subject.

Scarlet Fever.—During 1931, 144 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified as compared with 107 in 1930 and 120 in 1929. The incidence increased in the last quarter of the year, when 56 cases were notified.

Ninety-one cases were treated at the Isolation Hospital at Goscote.

The disease has remained of the mild type which has characterised it of recent years, there being one death, and one in 1930.

The average yearly incidence of the disease during the past five years has been 1.17 per 1,000.

Chickenpox.—Chickenpox was notifiable until 16th July, 1931, 304 cases being notified. All unvaccinated cases were visited by a member of the medical staff.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—One case was notified.

Enteric Fever.—No cases were notified.

Measles.—466 cases of Measles were notified during the first quarter from the schools, 41 in the second quarter, 4 in the third quarter, and 4 in the fourth quarter, a total of 515 cases.

There were 21 deaths from Measles during the year, 18 of those being in children under the age of 5 years.

Whooping Cough.—84 cases of Whooping Cough were notified from the Schools during the year, against 42 cases notified in 1930.

There were 8 deaths from Whooping Cough during the year, all being in children under the age of 5 years.

Mumps.—10 cases of Mumps were notified from the Schools during the year.

Influenza and Pneumonia.—During the year 152 cases of Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal or Primary in type were notified, as against 160 in 1930 and 425 in 1929. There were 115 deaths due to this cause as against 89 in 1930, 151 in 1929 and 77 in 1928, a death rate of 1.10 per 1,000 as against 0.89 in 1930, 1.50 in 1929 and 0.77 in 1928.

There were 27 deaths from Influenza. Of the deaths from Pneumonia 41 were in children under the age of 5 years and 24 in persons over the age of 45 years.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

VIII.—Showing cases admitted, deaths, case fatality rate, duration of stay, and percentage of cases isolated.

Diseases	No. of cases notified	No. of cases admitted			Deaths		Mortality rate per 1,000 cases admitted	Total No. of patient days	Average duration of stay (weeks) of patients discharged or died	Percentage of notified cases isolated
		Walsall	Other Districts	Total	Walsall	Other Districts				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	122	121	10	131	9	—	68.7	6995	6.4	99%
+ Contacts	—	44	—	44	—	—	—	879	2.7	—
Scarlet Fever	144	91	7	98	1	—	10.2	3011	5.2	62%
Measles	—	23	2	25	5	—	200.0	941	4.5	—
Erysipelas	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases	—	30	—	30	2	—	66.6	760	3.7	—
Total	—	309	19	328	17	—	51.8	12,586	5.2	—

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929

The Manor Hospital not having been appropriated under the Public Health Act, remains under the administrative control of the Public Assistance Committee to which Committee your Medical Officer of Health was appointed Principal Medical Officer.

The following report for the year 1931 was submitted by the Medical Officer of the Manor Hospital (formerly the Poor Law Hospital and now a Municipal Hospital) to the Public Assistance Committee.

"The general work of the Hospital has continued to increase, and the following table shows the rate:—

1928	Admissions	..	980
1929	"	..	1,514
1930	"	..	2,185
1931	"	..	2,402

No additional Ward accommodation has been provided and the total number of beds in the Institution remains just as it has been for the past twenty-eight years.

The proportion of acute work becomes greater year by year, and 1,955 patients remained in Hospital for four weeks or less in 1931.

The surgical work for which 80 beds are set apart has increased tenfold in the past three years. It is noteworthy that in this department the amount of accident work is negligible, and that it is chiefly concerned with the Surgery of conditions not attributable to injury.

In forty children's beds, 675 patients were admitted as against 192 in 1928. It is regrettable that the baby ward is very cramped and has no balcony accommodation.

An increase has also taken place in the Maternity department, 136 births occurred as compared with 83 last year, and 50 in 1928.

Definite progress has been made in the way of reconstruction outside the wards, and the schemes approved of some two years ago have taken

shape. A new theatre suite reconstructed from the old maternity ward, a corridor on the first floor bringing all parts of the Hospital into communication, a dental room and clinical laboratory have greatly added to the general efficiency of the Hospital.

The transfer of the maternity ward to the old Nurses' Home, which made the above reconstruction possible, has not altered our maternity accommodation. The department lacks space and the labour room is too small.

The urgent need of an improved X-Ray service and a better Mortuary has been reported upon several times, and both matters are receiving attention.

The fact that 7,636 massage and electrical treatments were given in a single room measuring 22 ft. by 12 ft. without dressing accommodation, gives an idea of the difficulties in running this department.

Statistics for Year ended 31st December, 1931.

Total Admissions	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,402
Patients in Hospital 1st January, 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	247
							<hr/> 2,649

		ACCOMMODATION.			
		Men	Women	Children	Total
Medical Beds	..	31	28	—	59
Surgical Beds	..	31	31	—	62
Children's Beds					
(Unclassified)	..	—	—	40	40
Maternity Beds	..	—	7	—	7
Chronic Beds	..	62	31	—	93
Total	..	124	97	40	261

Average Beds occupied	..	238
Highest No. occupied	..	275 on 13th March, 1931.
Lowest No. occupied	..	192 on 21st September, 1931.

DURATION OF STAY.

(a) Four weeks or less	..	..	..	..	..	1,955
(b) Exceeding four weeks but under thirteen weeks	..				..	569
(c) Exceeding thirteen weeks	..	..	..	..	..	118

SURGICAL OPERATIONS

Abdominal.		Deaths
Appendicitis (Acute)	72	3
Appendicitis ..	20	1
Gastro-enterostomy	5	1
Gastrectomy ..	1	—
Perf. Gastric Ulcer	5	—
Reduction of		
Intussusception ..	5	1
Colostomy ..	5	—
Cholecystectomy ..	3	—
Hernia	43	—
Resection of Bowel	4	1
Other abdominals ..	18	5

Genito-Urinary.

Nephrotomy ..	3	—
Nephrectomy ..	6	1
Cystoscopy ..	8	—
Dilatation of Stricture	2	—
Prostatectomy ..	1	—
Urethrotomy ..	6	1
Suprapubic Cystotomy	6	—
Hydrocele	8	—
Circumcision ..	11	—

Rectum.

Hæmorrhoids ..	12	—
Fistula	1	—
Excision of Rectum	1	—

Gynaecological.

Hysterectomy ..	8	—
Ruptured Ectopic ..	2	—
Dilatation and		
Curretage ..	7	—
For incomplete		
abortion ..	12	1
Amputation of Cervix	4	—
Colporrhaphy ..	4	—

Gynaecological—continued.

	Deaths
Cysts of broad	
ligament	3 —
Salpingectomy ..	3 —
Bartholins' Gland ..	2 —

Bones and Joints.

Osteotomy ..	7	2
Hallux Valgus ..	2	—
Loose Cartilage ..	4	—
Fractures	30	—

Miscellaneous.

Glands of Neck ..	7	—
Resection of Ribs	6	2
Amputation of Breast	6	—
Amputation of Leg	4	3
Incision of Abscesses	55	—
Others	41	3
Amputation of Digits	8	—

Ear, Nose & Throat.

Mastoid	6	1
Nasal Polypi ..	4	—
Dissection of Tonsils	24	—
Tonsils and Adenoids	169	—
Others	13	—
Dental	291	—

Obstetric.

Caesarean Section	1	—
Forceps Delivery ..	6	—
Craniotomy ..	1	—
Internal Version ..	3	—
Induction ..	3	—
Other Manipulations	4	—
	—	—
	986	26
	—	—

Maternity Department.

Births	..	..	..	136
Still Births	..	..	..	10
Obstetric Operations	..			18 vide supra.
Maternal Deaths	..	..		—

Massage and Electrical Department.

Treatments given:—

Massage	..	..	..	2,834
Electricity	..	..	..	892
Radiant Heat	..	..		2,207
Ultra-Violet Light	..			1,703
				<hr/>
				7,636
				<hr/>

Pathology.

Specimens sent to Birmingham University and Birmingham Children's Hospital	..	459
		<hr/>

DEATHS.

Over 80 years	..	..	..	33
70 to 80 years	..	..	..	93
60 to 70 "	..	..	..	65
50 to 60 "	..	..	..	45
40 to 50 "	..	..	..	22
30 to 40 "	..	..	..	19
20 to 30 "	..	..	..	16
10 to 20 "	..	..	..	7
1 to 10 "	..	..	..	19
Below 1 year	..	..	..	36
				<hr/>
				355
				<hr/>

MEDICAL RELIEF AND VACCINATION DISTRICTS.

The Borough is divided into four districts for the purposes of Medical Relief and Vaccination, each District being in charge of a private medical practitioner appointed for this work.

The Districts are not co-terminous with the wards of the Borough, but may be described as follows:—

No. 1 District	..	Dr. A. M. Stuart	..	Bloxwich Ward, part of Leamore Ward.
No. 2 District	..	Dr. G. W. Baker	..	Pleck Ward, parts of Birchills Leamore, Bridge and Caldmore Wards.
No. 3 District	..	Dr. J. O'Brien	..	Parts of Hatherton, Birchills, Leamore, Bridge and Paddock Wards.
No. 4 District	..	Dr. J. F. O'Meara	..	Parts of Paddock, Caldmore, Bridge and Hatherton Wards.

Following upon the increase in the number of wards in the Borough various alterations in the Medical Relief and Vaccination Districts have been made. These take effect as from 1st January, 1932.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

This work is undertaken at the Walsall General Hospital under an agreement with the Town Council, Dr. A. M. Stuart being the Medical Officer of this Department.

Evening Clinics for Males are held on Tuesdays and Fridays, and an Afternoon Clinic for Females on Thursdays weekly. Provision is made for cases to remain in the Hospital over-night, if necessary, after injections.

A Special Clinic on Wednesday afternoon is reserved for cases requiring injection.

Facilities are afforded for irrigation of cases of Gonorrhœa daily. A male and female nurse are engaged for this purpose.

Examinations of specimens for Gonococci are undertaken by Dr. Stuart. Other examinations are carried out at the Birmingham University.

Arrangements are in force whereby women and girls suffering from venereal diseases in the Borough can be received into the Cleveland House, Wolverhampton, for treatment.

These cases arise generally in connection with rescue work, cases at the Walsall General Hospital requiring a lengthy in-patient stay may also be transferred to Cleveland House.

The arrangement provides the requisite treatment and nursing, and it includes expectant mothers and lying-in cases.

The following is a summary of the work carried out at the Clinic during the year 1931.

TABLE SHOWING THE WORK OF THE VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC DURING THE YEAR 1931.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancres		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number of Cases on Register 1st Jan., 1931 ..	56	50	—	—	35	11	—	—	91	61
Number of Old Cases returned for treatment or observation of same infection ..	9	4	—	—	5	2	—	—	14	6
Number of New Cases dealt with for the first time ..	25	40	2	—	46	26	53	50	126	116
Number of New Cases transferred from other centres ..	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	2
Total cases dealt with ..	90	96	2	—	90	39	53	50	235	185
Attendances:—Medical examinations ..	1102	1276	14	—	560	407	242	313	1918	1996
Irrigation Dressings ..	26	65	—	—	2214	600	—	—	2240	665
Total attendances ..	1128	1341	14	—	2774	1007	242	313	4158	2661
Patients admitted to Hospital ..	—	—	1	—	3	2	—	—	4	2
"In-patient days" ..	—	—	44	—	50	111	—	—	94	111
Walsall persons treated at Wolverhampton Centre ..	1	—	—	—	3	—	5	—	9	—
Number of New Cases attending during 1931—										
Walsall ..	54	—	1	—	58	—	82	—	—	—
Staffordshire ..	11	—	1	—	14	—	21	—	—	—
Pathological Work:—	Spirochetes		Gonococci		Wassermann		Gonorrhoea		Total	
Specimens examined at Walsall Clinic ..	6	—	341	—	—	—	—	—	347	—
Specimens examined at Birmingham University ..	—	—	—	—	437	—	11	—	448	—

**LOCAL ACTS, BYE-LAWS, &c., RELATING TO
PUBLIC HEALTH,
IN FORCE IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.**

Local Acts.

THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1890.
THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1914.
THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1925.
THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1930.

Adoptive Acts.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT AMENDMENTS ACT, 1890, Part III.
THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907, secs. 34, 35,
37, 44, 45, 46, 50, 51.
THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 (Part II. [less Secs. 13, 17, 18, 19,
20], Part III. [less Sec. 39] Parts IV, V.).

Bye-Laws.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.
HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.
COMMON LODGING HOUSES.
NEW STREETS AND BUILDINGS.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

There has been no important extension of public water supplies, the town is well served by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company, the supply throughout the year has been satisfactory as to quality and quantity. The number of houses dependant on wells, springs, etc. for water for domestic use has increased. Twenty dwellings in the districts added to the Borough by the Walsall Corporation Act, 1930, use either well or spring water. The water mains are at such a distance as to preclude a piped supply for the majority of the houses at the present time. There are now approximately fifty-one houses in the Borough not receiving their water supply from the S.S.W. mains. Samples from the public supply have been obtained and the water on analysis has proved satisfactory.

SAMPLE NO. 25.	Organisms per c.c. at 37° c.	..	1
	Organisms per c.c. at 20° c.	..	6
	Organisms indicative of	}	Absent from
	Sewage contamination		
			100 c.c.

Water for domestic use from seven wells, three springs, one cistern and two samples from S.S. Company's water mains have been submitted for examination. Five of the well waters, and one spring water gave evidence of sewage pollution, the water from two wells, a spring and a cistern were unsatisfactory, and one spring water was passable, the two samples from the public supply were good.

The users of the water adversely reported on have been informed and suggestions made that all water should be boiled before use. It is impracticable at present to lay on S.S. Company's water to the houses served by the wells etc. above referred to.

I am indebted to Mr. John Taylor, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, for the information given below relating to Rivers and Streams, Drainage and Sewerage, Scavenging and Refuse collection.

1. Rivers and Streams. The question of checking the pollution of rivers and streams in this area has been given great attention during the last twelve months.

Generally, the following work has been carried out:—

Improvements effected on Storm Water Overflows by the installation of dip plates.

The cutting off of foul water sewers where found to be connected to Storm Water Sewers.

Careful analyses of all effluents where entering watercourses to see that the standards of purity for effluents laid down by the Ministry of Health are being complied with.

The checking of levels of Storm Water Overflow sills to see that no flow below six times Dry Weather Flow is discharged to streams.

2. Drainage and Sewerage. With regard to the extensions and improvements of existing sewerage works, the Corporation have two schemes in hand:—

1. The extension of the Main Sewage Disposal Works at Bescot. The scheme for the extension of this Sewage Works was prepared in July and August, 1931, but in view of the proposals for economy, work on this scheme was considerably retarded.

2. Goscote Joint Sewage Disposal Works. Negotiations have been continued with the Walsall Rural District Sewage Works for the construction of a new Sewage Works at Goscote to deal with approximately 600 acres in the north-east portion of the Borough and a portion of the area of the Walsall Rural District Council.

Plans are now in course of preparation by Messrs. Willcox & Raikes, the Engineers to the scheme.

The scheme for the laying of sewers in this portion of the Borough has already been commenced, and it is expected will be completed in about six months time.

They cannot, however, be brought into use for conveying foul sewage until such time as the Joint Sewage Works is constructed.

There are two small Sewage Works in this area, one of which when the new scheme is in operation will be abandoned, and the other will only be used for the treatment of Stormwater.

Parkbrook Pumping Station. A loan has been obtained for the erection of a new Pumping Station at Parkbrook, which Pumping Station is intended to deal with the sewage from the Wolverhampton Road Housing Site, the Bentley Moor Housing Site and land in that neighbourhood. The proposal is to erect two Sewage Ejectors at the present time with room for a third, and to lay a new 9 in. cast iron rising main discharging into the Sewage system of the Borough draining to Bescot.

This scheme has already been commenced and will be completed within the course of the next few months.

3. Scavenging. Two Karrier Sweepers and collectors continue to be employed and the practice of the barrow-men radiating from six different centres instead of, as formerly, from the central depot, continues to prove the most efficient method of cleansing the streets.

Refuse Collection. With regard to the collection of refuse, three freighters purchased from Messrs. Shelvoke & Drewry are now employed on bin collection, and whilst the cost of collection per ton of refuse is very slightly higher than collection by horse and cart, from a hygienic point of view these freighters have proved extremely satisfactory.

The conversion of ashpits to ashbins continues to proceed apace.

The refuse is emptied from the ashpits into special constructed box-barrows, which are wheeled down the entry, the box part lifted and tipped straight into the cart. Thus, therefore, no refuse is tipped into the road at all. This improved method has been in operation now for about three years and is very much more sanitary than the old method, inasmuch as it prevents refuse being blown about the street.

The whole of the ashpits in the Borough are emptied in rotation, and without notice being received from the tenants concerned. The ashpits in the poorer class districts are emptied more frequently.

Any reports that may be received of full ashpits are dealt with within 48 hours. although the statutory limit for emptying reported ashpits is seven days.

The whole of the ashbins in the Borough are emptied every week, and as near as possible, at the same time on the same day each week.

The whole of the refuse is used for land levelling and road construction, and on each tip specially appointed tipmen are engaged to keep the refuse tidy, to burn the paper and to make every effort to keep the tips in a thoroughly sanitary condition.

1. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Walsall is now rapidly approaching the completion of conversions from various insanitary types of closets, such as privies, pail closets and waste

water closets to the modern water closet. There are in the Borough approximately 19,574 water closets fitted with fresh water cisterns, 4,110 water closets having no flushing apparatus being hand flushed by bucket, etc. There are 65 waste water closets, 84 pail closets and 281 privies.

The number of pail and privy closets has been added to by the extension of the Borough. Situate in Birmingham Road, Great Barr, and the Delves, there are 40 houses served by 33 privies and 39 houses by 33 pail closets.

All the privies and pail closets are at houses not having a drainage system to the sewer. On the provision of sewers to which such houses can connect, conversion will be required.

The speeding up of the provision of adequate flushing cisterns to water closets not already provided with a flush, continues. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports that during the year, this much needed improvement was effected in 1,712 water closets. If this rate of progress is maintained all remaining hand-flushed closets should be fitted with cisterns and water supply within the ensuing three years.

ASHPITS AND ASHBINS

Satisfactory progress in the substitution of ashbins for ashpits has been made, exactly 2,000 ashbins have been provided replacing 1,223 ashpits, while 312 new bins have replaced worn out bins or unsuitable receptacles such as wooden boxes, buckets, baths, etc.

For the whole Borough there are approximately 19,488 ashbins and 2,297 ashpits. A number of property owners converted the disused ashpit into a receptacle in which the ashbin could be placed, 652 conversions were made.

In 429 instances the work was to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and one half of the reasonable cost was repaid to the owners, the average amount paid by the Health Committee was 6s. 8.66d. per conversion.

ADDITIONAL WATER CLOSETS.

Seventy-five additional water closets have been provided, of these 16 were to furnish indoor accommodation, 47 augmented existing accommodation at houses where there was not one closet for each house, 10 were to make accommodation at factories or workshops sufficient, 1 additional w.c. at a school and 1 additional w.c. at a Social Club.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

1. The Number and Nature of Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

NUMBER OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.	J. Saville	J. Holdsworth	I. W. Richards	W. J. Woodward	E. F. Miner	C. A. Stansbury	TOTALS
House Inspections	1,007	689	794	1,019	—	274	3,783
House Re-inspections	595	802	577	597	—	1,214	3,785
Re-inspections in Insanitary Areas	—	—	—	—	—	1,145	1,145
District Inspections	1,503	1,370	670	819	—	510	4,872
Houses let in Lodgings	—	72	11	300	—	102	485
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	20	—	1	21
Schools re Drainage and Sanitary Conveniences	6	6	6	14	—	—	32
Workshops (not including Bake-houses)	37	71	57	222	—	3	390
Factories	7	9	13	55	—	8	92
Homes of Outworkers	4	10	19	28	—	—	61
Theatres and Music Halls	4	—	4	14	—	1	23
Rat Destruction	15	63	53	24	—	1	156
Drain Tests	25	67	37	41	—	—	170
Complaints	137	334	445	354	—	49	1,319
Re-inspections of Work for Abatement of Nuisances, etc.	1,818	2,143	1,933	2,102	—	650	8,646
Smoke Observations	7	17	2	13	—	3	42
Canal Boats Inspections	39	—	—	—	—	—	39
Slaughterhouses	753	133	45	94	3,276	34	4,335
Pig Killing on Private Premises	36	—	—	4	221	—	261
Butchers' Shops	97	1	34	65	401	7	605
Markets	94	57	51	87	171	51	511
Dairies	132	101	59	168	—	14	474
Bakehouses	40	62	87	87	—	3	279
Fried Fish Shops and Fish Yards	54	23	53	105	—	1	236
Fruit Barrows	—	—	—	23	—	—	23
Ice-cream Manufacturers and Vendors	42	28	1	32	—	—	103
Foodshops	202	371	565	445	—	—	1,583
Shops re Registration to Sell Bottled Milk	135	119	321	276	—	—	851
Samples, Drinking Water	4	3	1	5	—	—	13
Samples, under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, for analysis	44	48	54	72	—	—	218
Samples, Milk for Bacteria Count	14	29	5	6	—	—	54
" Milk tested for Tubercle Bacilli	—	11	—	—	—	—	11
" Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	—	2	2	6	—	—	10
Infected Houses	381	226	417	489	—	29	1,542
Fumigations after notifiable disease	136	56	91	94	—	—	377
Sundry	—	3	2	8	—	8	21
TOTAL VISITS AND INSPECTIONS. ..	7,368	6,926	6,409	7,688	4,069	4,108	36,568

2. The Number of Notices Served during the Year.

	J. Saville	J. Holdsworth	I. W. Richards	W. J. Woodward	TOTALS
Informal	692	646	765	724	2827
Statutory	261	167	165	257	850

3. Result of Services of such Notices.

	J. Saville	J. Holdsworth	I. W. Richards	W. J. Woodward	TOTALS
Number of Nuisances abated	1433	1313	1669	1827	6242
*Notices not complied with	212	206	268	164	850

* The majority are informal notices.

DEFECTS OR NUISANCES DISCOVERED AND ACTION THEREON.

Eight hundred and fifty-two houses were reported for repairs, 3,336 w.c.'s, or ashpits were found to be insufficient, 1,345 nuisances due to foul or defective drains, sinks, water closets, ashpits, etc. were recorded. 70% of these cases were satisfactorily dealt with on informal action by the Sanitary Inspectors, and in 30% Statutory notices were issued. In three cases only was it necessary to institute summary proceedings. No less than 6,335 houses have been improved in the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Forty-two observations have been made for detection of smoke nuisances, in eight cases a nuisance was found, particulars of which were immediately sent in writing to the occupiers of the works or other premises involved. With one exception the warning resulted in such attention on the part of the stokers as has minimised the amount of smoke emitted, considerable improvement being noted at subsequent observations. In one case a second warning was sent and the firm replied that mechanical stoking apparatus was to be

fitted. This alteration was effected about July and the nuisance from smoke has not again been found. In November complaints were made of grit and dust from the chimney, the complaint was investigated and the firm consulted the engineers who fitted the mechanical stoker, an alteration was made for facilitating the frequent removal of grit from the flues, since this alteration there has been no further complaint.

Generally, where considerable amounts of industrial smoke are noted the process is among those trades to which the Public Health Acts do not extend.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The following is a monthly record of rainfall and deposit as collected in the soot deposit gauge placed in the grounds of the Epidemic Hospital, Hospital Street, Walsall.

1931	Rainfall Inches	Solids Collected, Tons per Square Mile		
		Total Insoluble	Total Soluble	Total Solids
Jan. ..	1.8236	14.30	8.29	22.59
Feb. ..	2.6844	13.01	4.77	17.78
March ..	.1664	3.78	2.82	6.60
April ..	3.9080	21.23	21.06	42.30
May ..	3.6472	14.93	12.94	27.87
June ..	3.6472	10.11	9.95	20.07
July ..	3.5952	12.94	8.62	21.56
August ..	.4428	9.15	8.28	17.45
September	2.3444	9.32	8.06	17.38
October ..	1.0944	8.69	4.64	13.34
November	3.9088	11.61	10.28	21.89
December	1.0420	8.99	5.10	14.10
Year ..	27.1044	138.06	104.81	242.93

Average monthly rainfall' 2.3087 inches
 Average monthly deposit per square mile .. 20.2442 tons

The corresponding figures for 1930 were 2.853 inches and 23.865 tons.

The record of deposit for a manufacturing district such as Walsall may be considered fairly satisfactory. For the purpose of comparison, results in other industrial towns have been noted and the average deposit for the year as recorded in the monthly returns issued by the Department of Scientific and

Industrial Research for towns situate in Yorkshire equals 31.32 tons per square mile, Lancashire 40.64 tons, Warwickshire 29.06 tons, Leicestershire 28.56 tons, and a seaside resort on the West coast the deposit was 11.31 tons per square mile.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY ACTS, BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Cow Sheds	}								
Dairies		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	129
Milk Shops									
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
Slaughter-houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Fish-friers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	107
Fishmongers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
Ice-cream Makers and Vendors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	167
Grocers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	139
Bakers' and Confectioners' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Greengrocers' and Fruiterers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Hotels, Restaurants etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Small General Shops selling foodstuffs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	575
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Houses-let-in-Lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	304
Out-Workers' Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total									1,917

692 Shopkeepers sell Sterilized Milk.

Houses-let-in-Lodgings have been examined and letters have been sent to the owners indicating in what respects the conditions therein are not in conformity with the Bye-laws which came into force in June 1930. There is a marked improvement in most of the houses controlled by these bye-laws, the use of several houses for more than two families has ceased, and for two houses, represented as unfit for human habitation, demolition orders have been made under the Housing Act, 1930.

Tents, Vans and Sheds are dealt with under the Walsall Corporation Act, 1930. At the end of the year there were approximately 12 vans in use as dwellings on land situate in the Borough. Proceedings against the occupiers were pending in 11 cases.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

In the outlying portions of the Borough there are small groups of or individual houses drained to cesspools and served by privies or pail closets. These are having attention, and suggestions for the amelioration of any insanitary conditions are receiving the consideration of the Council.

SCHOOLS

Full particulars of sanitary improvements effected at schools in the Borough will be found in my Annual Report as School Medical Officer to the Education Committee (page 109).

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in this Borough where Rag Flock is manufactured.

HOUSING.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1931.

(1.) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	8,655
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	12,440
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	3,783
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose. ..	5,685
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	51

- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. 727

(II) REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 65i

(III.) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 3

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) by Owners 36

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 150

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) by Owners 229

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners .. Nil.

(C) Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 44

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 2

(D) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930—

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil. |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

(E) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices— | |
| (a) by Owners | 13 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners .. | Nil. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | Nil. |

(F) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | 9 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 1 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 7 |

WORK DONE UNDER HOUSING ACTS, ETC. HOUSES CLOSED OR DEMOLISHED.

HOUSING ACT 1925.

The following houses were closed in compliance with orders, viz:—

No. 66 High Street, Bloxwich.	Closing Order made 16th Sept., 1929.
" 1 in 3 Court, Shortacre Street, Walsall	} " " 21st Oct., 1929.
" 2 " "	
" 3 " "	
" 24-25 Peal Street, Walsall (Common lodging house)	
* " 18 Walker Road, Blakenall	} " " 17th Feb., 1930.
* " 20 " "	
* " 22 " "	
* " 24 " "	
* " 4 Bank Street, Walsall	" " 17th Dec., 1929
* " 3 in 4 Court, Lower Rushall Street, Walsall	" " 28th April, 1930.

N.B.—* These houses were demolished during 1931 and the sites cleared.

No. 16 Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich (closed 1930). Demolished and site cleared 27th August, 1931.

No. 8 Wallows Lane, Walsall (closed 1929). Demolished and site cleared 15th July, 1931.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Under this Act the following houses were closed, viz:—

No. 70 Old Butts, Walsall.	Demolition order made 19th Jan., 1930. House closed 20th April, 1931. Not yet demolished.
No. 4 St. Paul's Row, Walsall.	Demolition order made 16th Feb., 1931. House closed 15th December, 1931. Not yet demolished.

No. 22 Victor Street, Walsall.	Closed 30th September, 1931. Undertaking given 19th October, 1931 under Section 19 (2) that house shall not be used for human habitation.
No. 1 in 4 Court, Blue Lane, Walsall.	Demolition orders made 27th April, 1931.
" 2 " "	" " " "
	Houses demolished and site cleared 20th November, 1931.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED VOLUNTARILY.

Insanitary houses for which notices under the Public Health Act had been issued, viz.:—

Cottage, Forest Lane (closed 1929); Nos. 28, 29 Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, and Nos. 1 and 2 Rock Cottages, Highgate, demolished.

For street improvements. Nos. 3 and 4 Green Lane, Walsall, demolished.

HOUSES REPAIRED.

For two unfit houses in Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, the owner gave an undertaking to repair under Section 19 (2) Housing Act, 1930. The Health Committee cancelled the undertaking on 22nd December 1931.

Under the Housing Act, 1925, thirteen houses, and under the Housing Act, 1930, 36 houses were repaired and made fit for human habitation following the issue of notices under those Acts.

APPEAL AGAINST A DEMOLITION ORDER.

The owners of the dwelling-house No. 66 Lower Rushall Street, Walsall, appealed against a demolition order made on the 28th September, 1931. The enquiry was conducted on the 16th December, 1931 by R. E. Thorpe Esq., of the Ministry of Health, at the Council House, Walsall. The decision of the Minister of Health is awaited.

NEW HOUSES.

Mr. John Taylor, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, has kindly furnished the following information as to the number of new houses erected in the Borough during the year 1931.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) ..	709
(i) By the Local Authority	624
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other Bodies and Persons	85
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i) By the Local Authority	624
(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Act of 1925 ..	Nil
(b) For the purpose of Part III of the Act of 1925 ..	624
(c) For other purposes	Nil
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons	Nil

Mr. E. W. Croasdale, House Manager, informs me that on 31st of December, 1931, the number of Council Houses in 115 streets completed and let were, viz.:—

Under the 1919 Scheme, 124 Parlour Type, 186 Non-Parlour Type. Under the 1923-25 Scheme, 485 Parlour Type and 2,952 Non-Parlour Type, making a total of 3,747, and houses not yet completed 24 parlour type, and 552 non-parlour type. The inclusive weekly rents vary from 8/7 in the case of 12 flats 2 bedrooms to 15/3 for 2 parlour type three bedroomed houses.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

A representation of an unhealthy area in the Hatherton Ward was made towards the end of December 1930. A Public Enquiry was held on 23rd June, 1931, and subsequently an order was made confirming, with some slight modifications, the Scheme, known as the James Street Clearance Scheme. The Scheme as now confirmed comprises an area covering 176 dwelling-houses, occupied by 937 persons, and steps have been taken to deal with the area in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1930.

HOUSES ETC. IN EXTENDED PORTION OF BOROUGH (1st April, 1931)

The Health Committee on the 27th May, 1931, made an inspection of the areas in the extended portions of the Borough. The following is a brief summary of the premises in the added areas, viz.:—

NUMBER OF HOUSES ETC.

The total number of premises (206) occupied, or intended to be occupied as dwellings is as follows, viz.:—

One hundred and eight residences or villas, eighty-five cottages, three shops, nine farms and one public house.

MODE OF DRAINAGE.

Ninety-eight houses are drained to a sewer, forty-one are drained to cesspools, twenty-three are drained to ditches, and forty-four houses have surface drains only.

WATER SUPPLY.

One hundred and forty-one houses have a separate supply of South Staffordshire Company's water laid on. One house (Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich) has water laid on from Wolverhampton Corporation Water Works. Forty-five houses have S.S. water from standpipes. Eight houses are served by wells and eleven by springs.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

One hundred and fifteen houses have a water closet fitted with flush, twelve houses have handflushed water closets, forty houses have privies, and thirty-nine houses have pail closets (the privies and pail closets are shared by several houses).

REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.

One hundred and thirty-eight houses have ashbins, fifty-seven houses have ashpits and eleven houses have no accommodation, the refuse being thrown on ground in near vicinity of houses.

A number of the cottages will be dealt with under the Housing Act, 1930, and with the provision of sewers, efficient means of drainage will be provided and water closets substituted at other cottages.

The water mains are at too great a distance at present for enabling the provision of a piped water supply at several of the houses now dependent on wells.

SALVATION ARMY HOSTEL.

The buildings in Goodall Street, Walsall, formerly offices and workrooms, which were, during the closing months of 1930, remodelled by the Salvation Army for providing a Hostel for men, were formally opened by the Mayor, Councillor W. D. Forsyth, on 5th February, 1931. The building was well adapted for such a purpose, and the results achieved are admirable. The hostel provides accommodation for 120 men, 35 in cubicles, 2 rooms, 1 bed each and 83 in dormitories. The cubicles are practically in regular use by permanent lodgers. The average number of beds occupied nightly is 107.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY.

Mr. A. E. Paley, Veterinary Inspector, visits all the cowkeepers in the Borough twice yearly for the purpose of examining the milch cows. Mr. Paley reported at the end of the year, viz:—

“My general inspection of the dairy cattle in this Borough was completed on the 21st of November, when the number was 336, being an increase on my previous inspection of 65. The increase is calculated to be the result of the demand for more locally produced milk.

Generally speaking, the animals proved to be sound, mostly clean, and in excellent condition.

I drew the owners attention to the fact that the animals must be kept clean.

I did not find it necessary to take any samples of milk for testing purposes; but found one case of tuberculosis with Johne's disease, and two other cases of the latter disease, all of which have been slaughtered by my orders. The percentage of disease is remarkably low, not amounting to 1%.”

Cowsheds and Dairies are visited on an average four times during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

BACTERIAL CONTENT.

Fifty-four samples of milk were obtained for examination for bacterial content, 13 being taken at time of milking and the remaining 41 were procured from purveyors. The results of these examinations were, viz.:—

One “Grade A (Tuberculin Tested),” one “Grade A Milk Pasteurised,” one “Pasteurised,” eleven “Grade A,” nine “loose” milks were satisfactory.

Ten “Grade A” milk samples contained B.Coli, these milks were from four producers. Enquiry was made and each producer was informed as to the result of examination. The supplies were kept under special observation from May till August, and further samples were found to comply with the prescribed conditions.

A report was received from the County Medical Officer of Health for Stafford that milk from a Walsall cowkeeper contained B.Coli. Six samples were obtained at the farm at milking time (25th August) and Professor Lewis asked for further samples, and 5 samples obtained at morning's milking on 2nd September were on examination found to contain B.Coli. A further 5 samples on 10th September were examined, 4 contained B.Coli and in one sample B.Coli was absent. On 23rd September samples from bulk milk at time of milking were satisfactory.

It is interesting to note that the Bacteria counts in all the above samples with three exceptions where the organisms were respectively 230,000, 301,150 and 984,000 per cubic centimetre, were well below the maximum for "Grade A" milk, viz.:—200,000 per c.c. in 7 loose milks the count was below 10,000, one being as low as 950. In the "Grade A" milks the highest count was 110,800, and the lowest 250 organisms per cubic centimetre.

TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Tubercle bacilli was not found in the 11 samples of milk examined during the year.

Each licensed dealer in "Grade A" Milk has been visited and his records of purchase and sale of "Grade A" milk examined.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Regular and systematic inspection is made at all premises where foods are prepared, stored or sold. Slaughterhouses are visited several times weekly and only a small proportion of the animals slaughtered there are sold without inspection. One Inspector is engaged on meat inspection only. The retail markets are visited several times each market day. Butchers, Fishmongers and Fishfryers are visited at irregular periods. Bakehouses are inspected four times during the year. Greengrocers, Grocers, Icecream makers, are also visited.

In a number of cases it has been necessary to require lime-washing and cleansing of foodstores or shops. The majority are well kept premises.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

218 samples were obtained for examination by the Public Analyst. These samples were satisfactory and with three exceptions the requirements of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations 1923, and 1927, and the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1927, were found to be complied with. Two samples of milk were adversely reported on one contained 4.70% added water, and one was 3.3% deficient in cream. The vendors explanations were accepted and a written caution given in each case.

One sample of cream (handed to the Sanitary Inspector by a private person) contained a starchy substance, a sample of cream obtained by the Inspector from the Dairyman was found to be satisfactory.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Chemical examination of food is made by Mr. F. E. Thompson, A.R.C.S., F.I.C., Public Analyst, at his laboratory, Kelvin Chambers, Lichfield Street, Walsall.

Bacteriological examination of food is made under the direction of Professor C. J. Lewis at the University Public Health Laboratory, 10 Great Charles Street, Birmingham.

DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE.

Numerous addresses to various bodies have been given during the year by the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and other members of the staff.

The distribution of "Better Health" has been continued throughout the year, and there is no doubt but that this journal, which is an excellent medium for the dissemination of knowledge, is exceedingly popular. Two thousand copies are distributed each month through the Welfare Centres and our other Clinics, and there is a constant demand for a copy.

REPORT on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

I.—INSPECTION.

MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	192	29	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	569	64	—
Total ..	761	93	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts*—				
Want of Cleanliness	53	53	—	—
Want of Ventilation	1	1	—	—
Other Nuisances	19	19	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	7	7	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	9	9	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	4	4	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921) ..	—	—	1	—
Total ..	93	93	1	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE HOSPITAL.

The number of confinements taking place during 1931 was 233, against 226 during 1930, the average number of beds occupied during the whole year being 9. As the actual number of beds provided is only 10, it can be readily understood that the pressure on the accommodation has been exceptionally heavy, additional beds having frequently to be provided. It has again been quite impossible to deal with anything like all the applications received for admission, and very many have had to be declined. At the same time every endeavour is made to select our cases, the majority of the cases selected having been those with obvious pelvic abnormalities, primiparae (i.e. first pregnancies) and women who have previously had five or more children and consequently more liable to show variation from the normal, and women whose home conditions are unsatisfactory.

From time to time criticisms are directed against the Maternity Hospital, the chief of which appear to be that such a hospital is not necessary for normal cases, and that the wrong type of patient is using the institution, in other words that our patients could well afford the fees of a private nursing home.

During the year, the scale of fees was revised, the income level was lowered so that there was a general increase of fees all round as follows:—

Old Scale.		New Scale.	
Net family income.	Charge per wk.	Net family income.	Charge per wk.
Under 5 /-	£1 1 0	Under 45/-	£1 1 0
50/- to 60/-	1 11 6	45/- to 50/-	1 11 6
60/- to 70/-	2 2 0	50/- to 55/-	2 2 0
70/- to 80/-	3 3 0	55/- to 70/-	3 3 0
Over 80/-	4 4 0	Over 70/-	4 4 0

Of the total cases dealt with during 1931,

116 or 49.8%	were assessed at	£1 1 0	per week
36 or 15.4%	"	1 11 6	"
41 or 17.6%	"	2 2 0	"
20 or 8.6%	"	3 3 0	"
20 or 8.6%	"	4 4 0	"

In arriving at the net income, the average earnings of the family over the 13 weeks prior to application are taken and an allowance of 5/- per child made for each child under the age of 14 years. In very few of our cases was there any child of the family at work, so that the family income is made up of the income of the husband plus in a few cases that of his wife, in which case the total income is reduced some time before the confinement takes place.

A further analysis of the **gross** family income shows that in 74 cases the gross family income was under 45/- per week.

32	"	"	"	"	between 45/- & 50/- per week.
18	"	"	"	"	50/- & 55/- "
64	"	"	"	"	55/- & 70/- "
45	"	"	"	"	over 70/- per week.

It will be generally admitted that few if any of these persons could pay the fees of a private nursing home, together with all other expenses incidental to childbirth. Further the majority of those who pay £4 4s. 0d. are mothers with their first babies and we submit that they are eminently suitable for admission to the Maternity Hospital.

The argument one so frequently hears that hospital treatment should be reserved for abnormal cases only, presupposes that it is a simple matter to classify all maternity cases into two groups, normal and abnormal. If that were so how much easier would be our work, but whilst it is not difficult at our Ante-Natal clinics to pick out those mothers with pelvic abnormalities or systemic disease likely to give rise to anxiety, it is far from possible to say that all others are going to be straightforward cases. We have records of many mothers who have begun as normal cases but who have suffered from unforeseen severe and dangerous complications or sequelae.

During the seven years ending December 31st, 1930, 77 mothers died from Puerperal Sepsis or from other accidents and diseases connected with pregnancy and parturition, an average rate of 5.14 deaths per 1,000 births. During 1931 the rate was fortunately lower, 6 mothers dying, a maternal mortality rate of 2.95. Our high maternal mortality rate has always caused us a good deal of anxiety, and we feel that the remedy lies in the provision of increased facilities for the supervision and management of pregnancy and parturition. In this connection we may state that no known abnormal case has ever been refused admission to the Maternity Hospital.

There is, however, the even more important question of maternal morbidity.

We know from our Ante-Natal clinics and from our Maternity Hospital work that an enormous amount of suffering on the part of women is the direct sequel of previous pregnancies. This will be largely obviated when women are able to have their babies under ideal conditions such as are found in our Maternity and other hospitals—where they have the opportunity to thoroughly convalesce and when complete involution of the organs may take place. We do not know of any attempt that has been made to measure the ratio of maternal morbidity to childbirth, but we know from our experience in Walsall that this rate cannot be a low one.

We fail to do justice to our mothers owing to our very limited accommodation and to the extraordinary demand there is for admission to the Maternity Hospital. Bookings are made at the Ante-Natal Clinics and at the hospital and whilst we endeavour to select our cases according to the standards laid down, as stated in a previous paragraph, our accommodation is invariably booked up for at least six months ahead. That prospective mothers should have to book beds so far ahead has many drawbacks and is unfair to the patient, but so far we have not yet found any more suitable method, which would get us over our difficulty.

Further, the educational value of the hospital which is of the greatest importance, particularly to young mothers, must not be overlooked. The baby is given a proper start in life and every mother is given ample instruction in the proper hygiene of breast feeding and in the care of their young infants.

The nett cost of the hospital is the equivalent of a $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate.

The following are the rules and conditions of admission:—

1. That the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to admit patients to the Hospital in the following order;—
 - (i) Women whose confinement, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, is likely to be attended with complications which might prove dangerous if the confinement took place at home;

(ii) Women who, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, require ante-Natal Hospital treatment;

(iii) Ordinary cases of confinement.

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION.

2. All women admitted under the above-mentioned rules will be asked to pay in accordance with their means. All requests for remission of fees shall come before the Management Committee, who will fix the amount to be paid in accordance with a scale. The usual fee will be four guineas per week. If a patient is willing to pay the amount demanded, and makes no request for remission, enquiries as to means will be unnecessary and will not be made.
3. The usual amount charged for women admitted under Rule 2 for treatment before confinement on the advice of the Medical Officer of the Institution, will be 3/- per day.
4. Maternity Benefits receivable under the National Insurance Act by the patient and her husband shall be applied to the payment of any of these charges as soon as an account is received.
5. An undertaking shall be signed by the patient and her husband to pay the amount fixed by the Committee.
6. All patients wishing to go into the Hospital will be expected to pay a fee of 5/- at the time of booking. The fee will be counted as part of the total charges, but will not be returned if the patient does not come into the Hospital.
7. No application will be considered after the 32nd week of pregnancy, unless the admission of the case to the Hospital has suddenly become urgently necessary.
8. Patients wishing to pay the fees by instalments may do so by arrangement at the ante-Natal Clinics before entering the Hospital. The full fee must be paid before the patient's discharge from Hospital.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL — 1931.

Number of Cases during 1931 233

Cases remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1931—12 Mothers, 14 Infants.

Table showing Particulars of the Cases dealt with.

No. of Cases.	NATURE OF CASE.	No. of Births.	DEATHS.				
			Maternal.	Infantile.		Stillbirths.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
—	Placenta Prævia	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Contracted Pelvis— Cæsarian Section	1	—	—	—	—	—
6	Inductions— Instrumental Delivery ..	6	—	—	—	—	—
15	Non-Instrumental	15	—	—	—	—	—
4	Malpresentations	4	—	—	—	—	—
3	Toxæmia of Pregnancy ..	3	—	—	—	—	—
6	Intercurrent Ailments ..	6	—	—	—	—	—
1	Ante-partum Hæmorrhage ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	Adherent Placenta	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Prolapse of Cord	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Abortions	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Instrumental Deliveries ..	17	—	—	—	—	—
180	Normal Deliveries	180	—	—	—	—	—
233		233	—	2	—	3	—

Of the 2 Infant deaths, 1 died from Prematurity, 1 from Congenital Heart Disease.

Of the 3 Stillbirths, the causes were:—Macerated 1, Ante-partum Hæmorrhage 1, cause not ascertainable 1.

ANNUAL STATISTICS — MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

Number of Beds 10

INFORMATION REQUIRED.	PARTICULARS.
Number of Cases admitted during 1931 .. Average duration of stay	233 14.2 days.
No. of Cases delivered by— (a) Midwives	198
(b) Doctors	35
No. of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency	39
No. of Cases notified as— (a) Puerperal Fever	2
(b) Puerperal Pyrexia	3
No. of Cases of pemphigus neonatorum ..	1
No. of infants not entirely breast fed while in the Institution.....	10
No. of Cases notified as ophthalmia neona- torum with result of treatment in each case	Nil.
No. of Maternal Deaths, with causes.....	Nil.
No. of deaths— (a) Stillborn	3 (1 macerated, 1 ante-partum hæmorrhage, 1 cause not ascertained).
(b) Within 10 days of birth and their causes, and the results of the post- mortem examination, if obtainable	2 Prematurity
	Congenital Disease of Heart.. .. 1

INFANT MORTALITY.

During the year there were 2,034 births (1,974 legitimate and 60 illegitimate). There were 150 deaths of infants under one year, of whom 3 were illegitimate.

The Mortality Rate of legitimate births was 74.47 per 1,000 births, whilst that of illegitimate births was 50.00, giving a total Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births of 73.75 as compared with a rate of 69.00 for 1930.

Five deaths were due to Measles, as against 3 in the previous year.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia accounted for 37 deaths or 24.7 per cent. of the total infant deaths, and Diarrhœa for 18, or 12.0 per cent.

Prematurity accounted for 47 deaths or 31.3 per cent., whilst Congenital Defects and Deaths arising from Congenital Debility and wasting accounted for 26 or 17.3 per cent. of the total.

47 babies, approximately one third of the total, died within one week of birth, 34 of these from Prematurity, and 70 within the first four weeks of birth (46.7 per cent.).

Each year we have to record a very high percentage of infant deaths during the first week of life and during the first four weeks, as is shown in the following table :—

YEAR.	No. of Births.	No. of Deaths under 1 year of age.	No. of Deaths in Children under 1 year due to Prematurity.	No. of Deaths in Children under 1 year due to Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus.	No. of Deaths from all causes under the age of 1 month.	No. of Deaths from all causes under the age of 1 week
1922	2530	241	61	42	110	79
1923	2342	220	59	47	106	72
1924	2356	184	57	50	103	59
1925	2257	260	42	46	86	46
1926	2154	180	49	36	101	60
1927	2125	205	54	32	88	62
1928	2031	187	58	40	105	73
1929	1979	198	51	27	79	52
1930	2058	142	40	13	73	48
1931	2034	150	47	12	70	47

Pleck has the lowest Infant Mortality Rate with 46.7 deaths per 1,000 births, Caldmore next with 61.8, followed by Leamore, Paddock, Bloxwich, Birchills, and Bridge with 71.6, 76.5, 81.1, 85.5 and 88.4 respectively. The rate is highest in Hatherton ward where it is 92.0 per 1,000 births.

INFANT DEATHS FROM PREMATUREITY.

During 1931, 47 infant deaths out of a total of 150, or 31.3% were recorded to have been due to prematurity.

An investigation has been made into 44 of those deaths occurring in the Borough and of that number, the mothers of 31 infants had received no ante-natal treatment, whilst 13 were known to have received ante-natal advice or treatment at some time during their pregnancy, 3 from their own doctors and 10 from the Council's Ante-Natal Clinics.

The following table illustrates the duration of life of these babies.

	Ante-Natal advice		No Ante-Natal advice		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Death within 24 hours ..	3	—	8	5	16
" " 1 week ..	4	2	4	4	14
" " 1 month	3	—	2	6	11
" " 3 months	1	—	—	—	1
" " 12 "	—	—	1	1	2

8 sets of twins were involved (15 deaths), of these 1 twin (m.) died in 4 hours after birth, 1 set of twins (m.) died in 6 hours, 1 set (m.) within 24 hours, 3 sets of twins (males, males, male and female) within one week, and two sets (males, females) within one month.

In the following table is given the position in the family of the premature infant. From the table it will be noted that 16 out of the 44, or 36% were first babies.

Position in Family		Ante-Natal advice		No Ante-Natal advice		Total
		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1st child	..	1	—	9	6	16
2nd "	..	2	—	1	3	6
3rd "	..	2	1	—	3	6
4th "	..	2	1	1	—	4
5th "	..	2	—	2	2	6
6th "	..	—	—	—	1	1
7th "	..	—	1	—	—	1
8th "	..	—	—	—	—	—
9th "	..	—	—	—	1	1
10th "	..	—	—	2	—	2
11th "	..	—	—	—	—	—
12th "	..	—	—	—	—	—
13th "	..	—	1	—	—	1

All these cases have been investigated, and the following facts have been elicited as to previous infant deaths or stillbirths.

One previous stillbirth was noted in 2 cases.

One previous infant death was noted in 4 cases.

Two previous infant deaths were noted in 4 cases.

Six previous infant deaths were noted in 1 case.

Eight previous infant deaths were noted in 1 case.

One previous Stillbirth and one infant death were noted in 1 case.

One previous Stillbirth and two previous infant deaths were noted in 1 case.

In 7 instances no Ante-Natal treatment had been received, including those cases where 6 and 8 previous infant deaths had taken place.

It is difficult to give any real explanation as to why there should be a comparatively higher death rate from Prematurity in Walsall than in similar

towns in the neighbourhood, as we have a comparatively lower rate for stillbirths. One would expect the same factors which might be put forward as causing a high prematurity rate to likewise cause a high stillbirth rate. Such causes of prematurity as syphilis or the taking of abortifacients—two factors which are undoubtedly at work— would also be likely to cause a high stillbirth rate. Other factors as Nephritis which account for a proportion of premature births would operate in a similar way.

Damage to the generative organs as the result of previous confinements does not appear to be a very potent factor as 36% of the premature infants were first babies, and only 27% in multiparae with five or more previous pregnancies.

An important feature is lack of Ante-Natal care, 70% of the mothers having received no Ante-Natal advice or treatment, whilst of some of the others recorded as having had Ante-Natal advice, a number of mothers had only made one attendance at the Ante-Natal clinics.

One interesting point may be mentioned although it is as yet much too early to form a definite opinion, and it is this.

Our first Ante-Natal clinic was established in the latter half of 1928, and our work has steadily increased. The first noticeable decline in our prematurity rate occurred in 1930—a decline which has been maintained during 1931. As to whether this decline is due in any way to the establishment of Ante-Natal clinics or not, as I have already stated, it is much too early to form any definite opinion.

I think, however, there is no doubt but that the greater the facilities there are in the Borough for Ante-Natal advice and treatment, and the greater the facilities for the care of the premature infant, the more influence we are likely to exert on the infant mortality rate and particularly on the high prematurity rate.

NURSING SERVICES.

The Co-ordinated Nursing Scheme has worked smoothly during the year. An increase in the work of the Health Visitors' Staff has to be recorded, 29,856 visits having been paid to homes during 1931 in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme alone as against 28,013 in 1930.

Details of their work will be found in the following table.

The Work of the Health Visitors.

FIRST AND RE-VISITS.

Half-days spent at Welfare Centres.	Birth Enquiries First Visits.	Re-visits to Infants under 12 months.	Visits to Children 1-5 years.	Ante-Natal First Visits.	Ante-Natal Re-Visits.	Ophthalmia First Visits.	Ophthalmia Re-Visits.	Other Visits (Infectious Diseases etc.)	Total Visits.
1504	1912	9456	15433	295	256	21	60	2423	29856

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The attendances at the various Welfare Centres have again been large, the total attendances at the four Centres being 24,837 as against 19,285 in 1930. 1,549 new babies have been registered as against 1,320 during 1930.

Details of this very gratifying increase in our work—an increase which shows how much the work of the Centres is appreciated, will be found in the next table.

On Thursday, June 4th, the Ida Road Welfare Centre situated in Pleck ward was opened by the Mayoress, Mrs. W. D. Forsyth. This ad hoc Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is the best of all our Welfare Centres, and consists of a large central waiting room with Weighing Room and Doctors' Room at one end, a kitchen and a Toddlers' Room at the other end. A large pram shed forms part of the building. Well lighted and well ventilated, the Ida Road Welfare Centre is a delightful building, bright and cheery for the mothers and a very pleasant place to work in. The Centre was brought into use immediately after the opening and at once justified its provision as can be seen from the large attendances which have been made there.

With the opening of the Ida Road Centre, one of the sessions at Milton Street was dispensed with. With the appointment of Dr. Johnston to the Staff of the Health Department, the number of medical sessions was increased from one to two sessions per week at each of the five centres. This has enabled

us to give much more time to the medical examination not only of the babies but of the toddlers and there has been a very gratifying increase in the number of toddlers who are brought up to the Centres for advice.

Owing to the growth of the Field Road Housing Estate, and the very large attendances at the Field Road Centre, we could not cope with the work in two sessions, and consequently a third medical session was started at Field Road on Friday mornings early in 1932. The morning session for infant consultations was somewhat in the nature of an experiment but we are already quite satisfied that the experiment has been justified.

We take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the energetic band of ladies who so freely give of their spare time to assist us at the various Welfare Centres. These Voluntary Helpers relieve the nurses of much clerical work by acting as recording secretaries. At four of the centres they also run very successful sewing and remodelling classes, at which an enormous amount of very valuable work is done. This work is greatly appreciated by the mothers who take full advantage of their opportunities. At some of the centres Thrift Clubs are also conducted by the Voluntary Workers.

Attendances Registered at the Infant Welfare Centres.

CENTRE.	Under 6 months.		6-12 months.		1-2 years.		2-5 years.		Total.		New Cases.
	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	
Ablewell St. ..	2267	1535	925	363	662	222	1379	257	5233	2377	303
Field Rd. ..	2304	1357	1121	396	988	296	2003	488	6416	2537	389
Littleton St. ..	2067	1547	759	385	753	321	1124	383	4703	2636	277
Milton St. ..	2336	1421	984	424	787	313	1604	545	5711	2703	331
Ida Road ..	1055	662	530	230	471	216	718	240	2774	1348	249
Total ..	10029	6522	4319	1798	3661	1368	6828	1913	24837	11601	1549

A—Number of Attendances.

M—Number Medically Examined.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-Natal Clinics are now conducted at four of the Welfare Centres, weekly at Ablewell Street and Field Road, and fortnightly at Milton Street and Ida Road, the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer being present at all sessions. The Ante-Natal Clinic at Ida Road Centre, where the first session was held on June 19th, took the place of the extra session previously held at Ablewell Street. There has again been an increase in the number of expectant mothers attending, 619 women attending for the first time as compared with 609 during the previous year. The number of cases registered during the year at the various Centres is as follows:—

	Ida Road	Ablewell Street	Field Road	Milton Street	TOTAL
New Cases	31	265	221	102	619
Total Attendances ..	109	1043	970	356	2478
Medically Examined	109	990	914	340	2353

Summary of Cases in which some Abnormality has been found.

1. ALBUMINURIA.	19
Referred to own Doctor	10
2. PURULENT DISCHARGE	22
Referred to Hospital	18
3. CONTRACTED PELVIS	13
Referred to Consultant	8
Referred to own Doctor	4
4. MALPRESENTATIONS	27
Righted at subsequent attendance	19
Referred to Consultant	3
Referred to own Doctor	5
5. VARICOSE VEINS	21
Requiring Surgical Belts	2
Requiring bandages	17

6. HEART DISEASE 19

12 Specimens were submitted to Birmingham University for Wasserman re-action. The results were as follows:—

Positive	..	..	..	5
Negative	..	..	..	7

We appreciate the co-operation of the private Medical Practitioner and midwives which greatly assist us in our work.

All cases attending the Ante-Natal clinics requiring medical treatment are referred through the midwife to their own doctor or to hospital.

117 cases requiring special care were referred by letter to the midwives who were engaged to attend them.

We again tender our thanks to the Civic Guild of Help for their whole-hearted support and interest throughout the year, also to Mr. Grosvenor Overton who has again assisted us through the British Legion and United Services Fund to obtain abdominal belts, crepe bandages, and funds to provide extra nourishment in necessitous cases, all of which have been greatly appreciated.

We are still without adequate provision for dental treatment for our mothers. During 1931, 117 cases were found to be suffering from dental sepsis, and were referred either to their dentist or to hospital for treatment.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The Maternal Mortality for the past year was fortunately lower than it has been since 1923, six mothers dying, two from Puerperal Sepsis and four from other accidents or diseases connected with childbirth, the death rate amounting to 2.95 per 1,000 births. During 1930 there were 11 Maternal Deaths—a death rate of 5.34 per 1,000 births.

The following are the death rates for the last 10 years:—

1922	..	..	3.5	1927	..	..	4.2
1923	..	..	1.7	1928	..	..	3.9
1924	..	..	5.9	1929	..	..	5.0
1925	..	..	6.2	1930	..	..	5.3
1926	..	..	5.1	1931	..	..	2.9

Of the other complications connected with childbirth, the four deaths were due to the following causes:—

Hyperemesis Gravidarum	..	..	..	1 case
Pulmonary Embolism	..	..	..	1 "
Tear of Broad Ligament, General Peritonitis				1 "
Rupture of Uterus	..	..	..	1 "

Under the regulations of the Ministry of Health which came into force on October 1st, 1926, whereby any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100.4F. or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours, etc., has to be notified by the doctor in attendance, 15 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified.

Mr. S. W. Maslen Jones, F.R.C.S., is the Consultant under the Puerperal Pyrexia regulations, and his services are available when required.

Three cases of Puerperal Sepsis were notified, 1 of which was fatal. One other fatal case, not notified, was certified as Puerperal Sepsis (Septic Abortion).

Of the 2,041 births notified during the year, 1,239 or 60.7 per cent. were conducted by Midwives alone. 510 medical help forms were received from midwives in respect of labour complications; of that number 102 or 20 per cent. were in respect of prolonged and difficult labour, and 97 or 19.0 per cent. in respect of ruptured perinæum.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

All cases of orthopædic defect occurring amongst children under the age of 5 years are now treated at the Orthopædic Clinic established by the Education Committee at Bradford Street.

During the year 103 infants and toddlers under the age of five were examined as new cases by the Surgeon Specialist, 414 attendances being made by children under the age of five for orthopædic treatment. Ten children were discharged as cured. Thirty-five children received electrical treatment and massage in the Massage Department, making a total of 845 attendances. Six children were admitted to The Woodlands for in-patient treatment.

To appreciate the very valuable work which the Orthopædic Clinic is doing and to appreciate still more fully the value of early treatment, it is only necessary to pay a few visits to the clinic and see for one's self not only what is going on, but also the wonderful spirit with which the children, both old and young, co-operate with the Masseuse.

ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

During the year, 253 children under 5 years were treated at the Ultra Violet Light Clinic, making a total of 2,890 attendances.

The following is a summary of the disabilities from which the children were suffering:—

Rickets	..	..	..	92
Bronchitis	..	..	..	59
Debility and Wasting	..	..	..	58
Underweight	..	..	..	27
Other conditions	..	..	..	17

159 of these children were discharged from treatment during the year and the following table shows the results of treatment:—

	Cured	Very much Improved	Improved	Discontinued Treatment	Total
Rickets	20	8	—	14	42
Bronchitis	13	10	4	13	40 "
Debility and Wasting ..	19	2	2	15	38
Underweight	16	2	—	8	26
Other Conditions ..	4	4	—	5	13
	72	26	6	55	159

Treatments in the Untra Violet Light Clinic are given with a Mercury Vapour Lamp at a distance of 3 feet. General light baths are the rule but local applications in addition are given when necessary.

Treatment is given twice weekly but some of our mothers have not yet learned the value of regularity in attendance.

The accommodation in this clinic has been taxed to its utmost, and its value has been enhanced by the absence of sunlight during the summer of 1931.

The prevalence of rickets again accounts for most of our patients. A recent enquiry by the Ministry of Health showed that more than 50% of our children at three years of age suffer from well-defined rickets. Well may this be known on the Continent as "The English Disease."

In the prevention or early cure of this disease alone we should avoid an enormous amount of illness.

MEDICAL AID AND PROVISION OF MILK.

The Guild of Help continues, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, to do much of the investigation work required by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

All cases of midwifery where a Medical Practitioner is called in by the Midwife in attendance, and where a claim for fees is made, are investigated by the Guild, and a report submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. 383 such reports were received by the latter during the year.

57 cases were specially investigated and income verified with a view to legal proceedings being taken for the recovery of doctors' fees where the income was over scale.

All applications for free milk are also dealt with by the Guild. Suitable cases are recommended by the Medical Officer at the Welfare or Ante-Natal Centres. Reports are then made on these cases by the Secretary of the Guild who attends the weekly meetings of the Milk Sub-Committee and all recommendations are dealt with by this Committee.

1,019 families are granted milk during the year, and 6,913 reports were made on those cases to the Milk Sub-Committee.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

CASES.			Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	At Hospital.				
20	16	4	20	—	—	—

HOSPITAL TREATMENT. Under arrangements with the Public Assistance Committee, babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum can be admitted to the Manor Hospital. Mothers also may be admitted along with their babies. The arrangement has proved a most satisfactory one.

Under the scheme 1 baby was admitted for treatment.

INFANT FEEDING.—When first visited, 1,601 infants were entirely breast-fed, 228 breast and artificially fed, and 83 artificially fed.

Details of the food supplied are given as follows :—

FIRST VISIT—

Cow's Milk was being given to 219 babies.

Dried Milk was being given to 53 babies.

Condensed Milk was being given to 8 babies.

Other Foods and Rusks, etc. were being given to 31 babies.

WHILST ON RE-VISIT—

Cow's Milk was being given to 519 babies.

Dried Milk was being given to 194 babies.

Condensed Milk was being given to 3 babies.

Other Foods and Rusks were being given to 45 babies.

On the first re-visits, 1,107 were reported to be entirely breast fed.

17 infants died before being re-visited, and 27 had left the Borough or could not be traced.

SANITARY DEFECTS.

10 cases were referred to the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

PAYMENT OF MIDWIVES' FEES.

The scheme for the payment of the midwife's fee in necessitous cases not in receipt of Poor Law Relief has worked satisfactorily during the year. Application for payment is made by the patient, or her husband, to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and the financial circumstances in each case are carefully investigated before payment is sanctioned.

Under the scheme the fee of 30/- was paid to midwives in respect of 9 cases, and in three cases £1 was allowed.

MIDWIVES ACT.

MIDWIVES' INSPECTIONS, ETC.					Total.
No. of Midwives on Register—	Trained	..	27	}	30
	Untrained	..	3		
No. of Visits to Midwives—	Inspections	..	124	}	591
	Interviews	..	467		
Puerperal Fever notified	..	..	..	..	3
Puerperal Pyrexia notified	..	..	..	..	15

7 cases were treated in Hospital.

3 cases proved fatal.

15 cases recovered.

Midwives disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Ophthalmia notified	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Cases treated at home	..	..	..	..	16	}	20
Cases treated at Hospital	..	..	..	4			

Midwives' Notifications.

Medical Help.	Stillbirth	Death of Child.	Intention to Practice.	Liability to be a source of Infection.	Laying out a dead body	Proposed Artificial Feeding.	Change of Address.	Death of Mother.	Change of Name.
510	19	2	30	9	5	6	1	—	—

Conditions for which Doctors were called in by Midwives.

PREGNANCY.

Abortion and Miscarriage	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Threatened Miscarriage or Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Purulent Discharge	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dangerous Varicose Veins	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Toxæmias (unclassified)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Albuminuria	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Contracted Pelvis	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
							—
							39
							—

LABOUR.

Ante, and Post-Partum Hæmorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	26
Ruptured Perinæum	..	..	..	..	..	97
Prolonged and Difficult Labour	..	..	..	..	..	102
Malpresentation	..	..	..	..	..	27
Retained Placenta and Membranes	..	..	..	..	..	19
Other Causes (indefinite diagnosis)	..	..	..	..	..	14
						—
						285
						—

PUERPERIUM.

Rise of Temperature	5
Secondary Post-Partum Hæmorrhage	2
Mastitis	3
Other Causes (indefinite diagnosis)	13
	<hr/>
	23
	<hr/>

INFANT.

Inflammation of, or discharge from Eyes	79
Dangerous Feebleness and Prematurity	41
Serious Skin Eruption	5
Malformation and Congenital Defects	10
Convulsions	4
Injury at Birth	1
Other Causes (indefinite diagnosis)	23
	<hr/>
	163
	<hr/>

The midwifery practice in the Borough is divided very unevenly amongst the practising midwives, there being only four midwives, who acting as such and not as Maternity nurses conducted over 100 confinements each, the actual numbers being 108, 113, 179, and 228. For any one midwife to carry out 228 confinements—an average of over 4 per week, together with the necessary ante-natal supervision and attendance for ten days afterwards, must mean an enormous amount of hard work to ensure that such work is done efficiently. In all fairness, however, it should be made quite clear that no complaint has been made against this busiest midwife and no fault has been found with her work:

Excluding those midwives who conducted less than 10 confinements and those mentioned above 14 midwives did an average of 42 confinements each. This number, however, does not represent a living wage and the time for some of the recommendations foreshadowed in the Report of the Departmental Committee, to come into operation is long overdue.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908.

The supervision of children coming within the terms of the Children Act 1908, is carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the Health Visitors being appointed Infant Protection Visitors within the meaning of the Act.

Under Part I of the Act, where a person undertakes for reward the nursing and maintenance of one or more infants under the age of seven years, apart from their parents or having no parents, he shall, within forty-eight hours from the reception of any such infant, give notice in writing thereof to the local authority.

The Medical Officer of Health is the person appointed to receive such notices on behalf of the local authority.

During the year, 10 new cases were notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and 8 cases were under supervision at the beginning of the year.

Five children were removed from the register during the year for the following reasons:—

Legally adopted	..	..	..	1
Returned to parent or other relative				1
Left the district	..	..	..	1
On attaining age of seven years	..			2

Thirteen children remained on the register at the end of the year.

78 visits were paid to the homes of these children during the year. On the whole the children were being cared for in a satisfactory manner. In some cases the sleeping arrangements were not quite satisfactory and steps were taken to remedy the defects. In addition to the visits paid to the homes, a number of the children were regularly brought to the Welfare Centres, and there received additional supervision, their foster parents co-operating in every way with the Nursing Staff.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE MILK
SUB-COMMITTEE.

FRESH MILK.

During the year approximately 1,019 cases received a supply of milk free, at a cost of £1,210 12s. 2d.

948 lbs. of Dried Milk were given free at a cost of £72 9s. 3d.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

There are now in Walsall two Maternity Homes and two combined Maternity and Nursing Homes. All these premises are registered under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927. Exemptions, as provided for under Section 6 of the Act, were granted to our own Hospitals, the Walsall General Hospital and the Manor Hospital.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS, YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31st, 1931.

No. of Births notified during the year	..	..	..	..	2,114
by Medical Practitioners and Parents	..			219	
by Midwives	..	..	..	1,895	
Born in Manor Hospital	..	..	..	..	106
Stillbirths notified during the year	..	..	..	..	73
" attended by Medical Practitioners	..			11	
" attended by Midwives	..	..	..	62	

Notified Births (excluding Stillbirths), Deaths under 1 year and rate,
Year ending December 31st, 1931.

	Blox- wich.		Lea- more.		Birch- hills.		Hath- erton.		Pad- dock.		Bridge		Pleck.		Cald- more.		Manor Hosp.		Mat. Hosp.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	*M.	*F.	*M.	*F.	M.	F.
Births	99	86	214	177	152	152	91	72	87	83	113	102	165	156	154	121	4	10	1	2	1080	961
Deaths under 1 year	15		28		26		15		13		19		15		19		—		—		150	
Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	81.1		71.6		85.5		92.0		76.5		88.4		46.7		61.8		—		—		73.75	

* Births of "out of the Borough" cases only.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

The only important change which has taken place in the scheme for Mental Welfare in the Borough has been the transfer of the control of the Occupation Centre from the Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare to the Statutory Committee.

Under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, which came into force on 1st January, 1931, an outpatient clinic has been set up at the Walsall General Hospital by the Staffordshire Mental Hospitals Board, the Local Authority under the Act. The clinic is staffed by a mental specialist.

The Voluntary Association still continues to assist the Statutory Authority in administering the Mental Deficiency Acts, the objects of the Association being as follows:—

STATUTORY.

1. To assist the Local Statutory Authority in administering the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-27, by:—
 - (a) Ascertainment and registration of defective persons.
 - (b) Visiting and supervision of defectives who may be subject to be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Acts; finding suitable guardians, furnishing information and reports as required by the Local Statutory Authority and the Medical Officer of Health.
 - (c) To provide guardianship officer for defectives placed under guardianship and to furnish quarterly reports thereon.
 - (d) To assist at the Occupation Centre in such ways as may be mutually arranged.

EDUCATION.

2. To assist the Local Education Authority by the visitation and supervision of defective children actually in or leaving Beacon School, and to undertake the systematic visiting of children between the age of 7 and 16 who should be in special schools. To report to the School Medical Officer on any cases referred by him for investigation.

VOLUNTARY.

3. To advise and assist and also befriend all defectives in the area who are at present not "subject to be dealt with" under the Mental Deficiency Acts, and those who although not up to the average standard of intelligence cannot be definitely certified as mentally deficient.
4. To provide an office which will be the centre for all enquiries relating to Mental Welfare.

The Medical Officer of Health is certifying officer under the Mental Deficiency Act, and in addition to the members of the Mental Welfare Department who are on the staff of the Town Clerk's Department, he has the assistance of voluntary workers of the Civic Guild of Help.

We are fortunate in having the close co-operation of the Civic Guild of Help and the Voluntary Association, for it is almost impossible to fix a dividing line between the work which is purely voluntary and that which is purely Statutory. The Voluntary case may become a Statutory case at any time, and the statutory case is always in need of the friendly supervision of the Voluntary worker.

The number of mentally defective persons in the Borough ascertained by medical examinations up to the present is 691 as against 621 at the end of 1930.

(a) The STATUTORY CASES consist of mental defectives under the age of 7 or over the age of 16 years known to require special care and supervision; uneducable mentally defective children between the ages of 7 and 16 referred to the Local Supervising Authority as being either incapable of further education in a special school, or of being incapable of such education without detriment to other children.

The Statutory cases, of whom there are 342, are distributed as follows:—

In Certified Institutions	..	..	∴	..	..	105
In Mental Hospitals	..	..	..	..	..	63
In State Institutions	..	..	..	..	..	1
In Poor Law Institutions	..	..	..	..	..	72
Under Statutory Supervision	..	..	..	..	..	88
Under Guardianship	..	..	..	..	..	13
						—
						342
						—

All our certified cases are sent to Great Barr Park Colony—the institution established by the former Walsall and West Bromwich Boards of Guardians. The institution which contains 579 beds for mentally defective cases is not yet certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts but steps are being taken to that end by the present Joint Committee of the two Town Councils.

(b) The EDUCATION CASES consist of mentally defective children betw en the ages of 7 and 16 capable of education in special schools. The Local Education Authority are responsible for their care and training. They are distributed as follows:—

In Certified Residential Schools	..	..	..	..	27
At Elementary Schools	..	..	..	..	102
At Other Institutions	..	..	..	..	4
At Home	..	..	..	..	41
					<hr/>
					174
					<hr/>

In addition there are 175 cases under Voluntary supervision by the Voluntary Association for Men'al Welfare.

During the year, 755 visits were paid to homes by the Mental Deficiency Visitors.

56 Cases were notified to the Voluntary Association during the year and these were dealt with as follows:—

Certified and sent to Institutions	..	..	..	..	9
Under Voluntary Supervision	..	..	..	..	34
Under Statutory Supervision	..	..	..	..	9
Under Guardianship	..	..	..	..	4
					<hr/>
					56
					<hr/>

Occupation Centre.

Towards the end of the year the Centre was transferred from the School Clinic buildings, Bradford Street, to more commodious premises in Hatherton Street. The accommodation is excellent, a light well-ventilated classroom with an additional classroom and kitchen attached, and should be sufficient to meet the needs of the borough for some time to come.

The Centre was originally opened at Bradford Street by the Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare on April 1st, 1924 and during the seven years the centre has been under their control, some very fine work has been accomplished in the training of our low grade defectives. We are exceedingly grateful to the Association for their valuable services and for the very real interest the members of the Voluntary Association have taken in the work.

There are 44 children on the roll of the Centre, 17 in Class I, and 27 in Class II; in addition, 4 children are taught in their own homes.

The Centre is open as formerly, the younger children attending on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3-30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are devoted to the Seniors, and on Thursday mornings the Supervisor visits 4 defectives who are unable on account of physical defects to attend the Centre. These home visits are greatly appreciated by the parents, and it has brought some interest into the lives of their helpless children.

The time table in addition to including some instruction in simple hygiene such as tooth drill and personal cleanliness, polishing and cleaning of classroom equipment, sense training and physical exercises, also includes instruction in handwork, e.g. rugmaking, knitting, woolwork, sewing, raffia work, plasticene modelling, crayon drawing, singing, recitation and eurythmics are also taught.

Great progress has been noted in the work of the pupils, and much improvement is to be noted in their mental and physical condition.

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the medical inspection of the pupils.

TUBERCULOSIS.

For the following section dealing with Tuberculosis, I am indebted to Dr. J. W. Hunter, Chief Assistant Medical Officer.

No action was necessary under the Public Health Act of 1925 (compulsory removal of patients to Hospital) nor under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, dealing with milk.

NOTIFICATIONS.

193 notifications were received during the year but some were duplicates, so that the total number of new cases was 174, of whom 143 were certified to be suffering from "pulmonary" and 31 from "non-pulmonary" tuberculosis.

Compared with 1930, there was a decrease of 2 in "pulmonary" cases and an increase of 5 in "non-pulmonary" forms.

Table I gives the new cases and deaths as to age distribution during 1931.

Table I.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
1—5 ..	1	—	4	3	—	—	2	1
5—10 ..	—	2	6	5	—	—	2	—
10—15 ..	3	2	4	3	—	2	1	—
15—20 ..	10	10	—	1	2	4	—	—
20—25 ..	7	20	1	1	7	5	—	1
25—35 ..	15	18	2	—	16	18	—	—
35—45 ..	16	7	1	—	9	5	1	—
45—55 ..	12	10	—	—	11	4	—	—
55—65 ..	7	—	—	—	8	1	—	—
About 65	2	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
Totals ..	73	70	18	13	57	40	7	3

In this report it is to be noted that only 17 cases, as against 37 in 1930, and 32 in 1929, came to our notice in other ways than by primary notification.

Table II.

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during 1931, otherwise than by notification on Form A or B.

Age Period—	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Ab. 65	Total
Pulmonary—Males ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	6
Pulmonary—Females ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	5
Non-Pulmonary—Males	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Non-Pulmonary Females	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

The new cases and deaths during the year were distributed throughout the wards of the town as shown in Table III.

Table III.

		Bloxwich.	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton.	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Manor Hosp.	General Hosp.	Total
Cases Notified—												
Pulmonary .. ..	..	10	18	28	15	15	12	27	18	5	—	143
Non-Pulmonary ..	..	2	2	4	5	2	4	6	6	5	1	31
Deaths—												
Pulmonary .. ..	..	7	12	16	14	11	7	13	17	15	1	97
Non-Pulmonary ..	..	1	2	2	1	1	—	2	1	6	3	10

EXTENT OF TUBERCULOSIS IN WALSALL.

During the year, in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, the Tuberculosis Register has been carefully revised, and the names of all patients who have given satisfactory evidence of complete recovery from the disease have been removed. In the following table the details are given of the distribution of the disease throughout the Borough at the end of the year.

Table IV.

Wards	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Grand Total
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Bridge	40	36	76	16	13	29	105
Hatherton	37	37	74	9	14	23	97
Paddock	39	44	83	12	11	23	106
Bloxwich	27	34	61	12	3	15	76
Leamore	67	78	145	20	22	42	187
Caldmore	66	80	146	25	20	45	191
Pleck	50	62	112	18	9	27	139
Birchills	57	89	146	15	16	31	177
	383	460	843	127	108	235	1,078

MORTALITY.

From Tables I and III, it will be noted that 107 deaths were registered as due to some form of Tuberculosis, and of these, 97 were "pulmonary" and 10 "non-pulmonary" forms.

There has been a slight decrease in the mortality from both forms, as compared with 98 "pulmonary" and 13 "non-pulmonary" deaths in 1930.

The death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis has accordingly fallen from 1.10 in 1930 to 1.03 in 1931, and the Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis has fallen from .97 in 1930 to .93 in 1931.

Of the total deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, as will be seen from the following table, 16 were either not notified at all or were notified only a few weeks before death, and in 2 cases notification was received after death had taken place, whilst of deaths from other forms of the disease, 3 were notified less than 2 weeks before death, whilst in 4 cases notification was received after death had taken place.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Non-Pulmonary.
Total Deaths	97	10
Cases not notified	4	—
Notification received after death	2	4
Death within 2 weeks of notification	7	3
Death within six weeks of notification	5	—

The ratio of the un-notified to the total deaths is 3·7%.

Table V.

Analysis of the Occupation of New Cases, and Deaths from Tuberculosis, during the Year 1931.

Occupation	No. of New Cases	No. of Deaths	Occupation	No. of New Cases	No. of Deaths
At or under School Age	28	9	Iron and Steel Workers	21	23
Bakers	2	2	Labourers	18	7
Caretakers	—	3	Leather Workers	13	10
Clerks	5	4	Nurses	1	—
Coal Miners	4	2	Printers	1	3
Coal Merchants	—	1	Tailoresses and Milliners	5	5
Engineers, Mechanical and Electrical	7	9	Unknown	—	6
Housewives	33	23			
Total				138	107

From the following table, it will be observed that not only the incidence of the disease, but also the death rate, is slowly but surely declining.

Table VI.

Shewing Attack Rate and Death Rate in Walsall since 1912.

Year	Attack Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912 ..	4.91		1.18	0.20
1913 ..	3.06	1.37	1.29	0.33
1914 ..	2.95	0.77	1.22	0.27
1915 ..	5.2	1.11	1.52	0.44
1916 ..	4.49	1.11	1.73	0.17
1917 ..	2.61	0.75	1.49	0.37
1918 ..	2.43	0.39	1.49	0.37
1919 ..	3.05	0.71	1.15	0.36
1920 ..	2.18	0.67	0.79	0.13
1921 ..	2.42	0.62	0.93	0.18
1922 ..	2.11	0.57	1.29	0.20
1923 ..	1.93	0.59	0.92	0.20
1924 ..	1.66	0.67	0.89	0.24
1925 ..	1.99	0.83	0.99	0.21
1926 ..	1.61	0.58	0.84	0.30
1927 ..	1.86	0.40	0.97	0.14
1928 ..	1.87	0.43	1.03	0.30
1929 ..	1.88	0.55	1.04	0.16
1930 ..	1.45	0.26	0.98	0.13
1931 ..	1.37	0.30	0.93	0.10

THE WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

At the Dispensary, St. Paul's Terrace, there are held 3 sessions each week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and in addition an evening session is held on the first and third Thursdays in the month.

The work at or in connection with the Dispensary during the year is set out in the following table:—

Table VII.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL.				Grand Total	
	Adults.		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts)—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	46	50	3	2	3	4	10	8	49	54	13	10	126	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	1	1	9	
(c) Non-tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	52	26	33	148	
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	5	3	—	1	—	—	2	1	5	3	2	2	12	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
(c) Non-tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	25	28	69	
C.—CASES written off the Dis- pensary Register as—														
(a) Recovered	2	7	1	0	3	—	2	4	5	7	3	10	25	
(b) Non-tuberculous (includ- ing any such cases pre- viously diagnosed and entered on the Dispen- sary Register as tuber- culous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49	62	51	61	223	
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispen- sary Register on December 31st—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	237	263	53	94	12	15	61	56	249	278	114	150	791	
(b) Diagnosis not completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	2	1	10	

TABLE VII.—continued.

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	865	2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	4
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme and cases "lost sight of"	121	4. Cases written off during the year as dead (all causes)	64
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) ..	1935	6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	104
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners— (a) Personal (b) Other	53 570	8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	43
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	1685	10. Number of— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc. examined (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	707 40
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above	—	12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	139

From the above table it will be noted that 104 males, 119 females and 142 children under the age of 15, a total of 365, were examined for the first time during the year as against 369 in 1930. Of that number 13 males, 11 females and 58 children were examined as being contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis. Thus 22.4% of the total examinations were contacts, compared with 16.8% of the total in 1930.

Of the total, 138 new cases of Tuberculosis were diagnosed, 110 Pulmonary and 28 Non-pulmonary, thus 37.8% of new cases applying proved to be Tuberculous and 14.6% of contacts were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

Table VIII.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates				Previous to 1931					1931				
				Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus			
					Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total		Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total
Remaining on Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1931	Disease Arrested	Adults	M.	25	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
			F.	31	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
		Children		37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Disease not Arrested	Adults	M.	46	10	23	1	34	14	9	20	1	30
			F.	59	17	14	3	34	34	2	9	3	14
		Children		31	1	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	—
	Condition not ascertained during the year			..	225	7	11	3	21	—	—	—	—
Total on Dispensary Register at 31st December			..	454	37	51	7	95	55	11	29	4	44

Not now on Dispensary Register and reasons for removal therefrom.	Discharged as Recovered	Adults	M.	28	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
			F.	35	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
		Children		23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from Dispensary Register			..	270	9	15	4	28	—	—	—	—
	Dead	Adults	M.	56	20	68	70	158	—	—	2	5	7
			F.	32	19	46	65	130	—	—	2	2	4
		Children		13	1	2	3	6	—	—	—	—	—
Total written off Dispensary Register			..	457	51	131	142	324	—	—	4	7	11
Grand Total			..	911	88	182	149	419	55	11	33	11	55

Table VIII.—continued.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates			Previous to 1931					1931					
			Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	
(a) Remaining on Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1931	Disease Arrested	Adults	M.	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
		F.	2	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	
	Children		11	12	1	10	34	—	—	—	—	—	
Disease not Arrested	Adults	M.	4	—	—	—	4	1	—	1	1	3	
		F.	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	2	4	
	Children		12	7	1	5	25	4	10	3	3	20	
Condition not ascertained during the year ..			7	13	4	22	46	—	—	—	—	—	
Total on Dispensary Register at 31st December ..			36	32	9	39	116	6	10	5	6	27	

Transferred to Pulmonary			1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Discharged as Recovered	Adults	M.	3	—	1	2	6	—	—	—	—	—
		F.	1	2	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	—
	Children		10	5	1	15	31	—	—	—	—	—
Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from Dispensary Register			20	15	19	41	95	—	—	—	—	—
Dead	Adults	M.	3	1	1	2	7	—	—	—	—	—
		F.	1	1	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
	Children		6	2	—	3	11	—	—	1	—	1
Total written off Dispensary Register			44	26	24	65	159	—	—	1	—	1
Grand Totals of (a) and (b) (excluding those transferred to Pulmonary			80	58	33	104	275	6	10	6	6	28

From Table VII and VIII it will be noted that in 139 cases or 17.3% of the total on the Dispensary Register, Tubercle Bacilli were found in the sputum, and 143 cases or 17.8% of the total on the Dispensary Register were Non-pulmonary cases.

Excluding the new cases, during the year the condition of 44.5% of the cases on the Dispensary Register was ascertained (i.e. were examined by the Tuberculosis Officer), or 33% of the total cases in the Borough.

Table IX.

Sex and ages constitution of all persons applying for advice or treatment with results of examination :—

Age Groups.		0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	Ab. 55	Totals
Pulmonary	M.	—	3	—	10	5	6	16	9	5	54
	F.	—	3	—	14	15	7	5	11	1	56
Other Forms	M.	3	7	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	15
	F.	2	6	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	13
Non-Tuberculous	M.	4	31	18	7	3	14	12	8	5	102
	F.	12	25	23	9	14	27	12	3	—	125

DOMICILIARY TREATMENT.

During the year 162 patients received this form of treatment from their own medical attendants, and 210 quarterly reports were received from them as to their physical condition and progress under their care.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

Sixty-two patients on the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Officer, were supplied with extra nourishment at a total cost of approximately £200. The Civic Guild of Help have again rendered valuable assistance to the Tuberculosis After-Care Committee in carrying out any necessary investigation as to the financial circumstances of patients.

SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.

On the 1st of January, 1931 there were 10 children and 1 adult under treatment for surgical tuberculosis, 4 cases of Hip Disease and 1 case of Spinal Disease at the Woodlands, 4 cases of Hip Disease and 1 case of Tuberculous Disease of the Elbow at the Forelands, and 1 case of Hip Disease at the Warwickshire Orthopædic Hospital.

During the year 1 adult and 2 children suffering from Hip Disease were admitted to the Royal Cripples' Hospital.

One adult and 2 children with Hip Disease and 1 child with Tuberculous Disease of the Spine were discharged.

At the end of the year 9 children and one adult remained under treatment at the Hospitals under the control of the Royal Cripples' Hospital, and 1 child at the Warwickshire Orthopædic Hospital.

All cases of Tuberculosis of the Bones or Joints requiring expert opinion are examined by the Surgical Specialist at the Orthopædic Clinic, established by the Education Committee at their School Clinic, Bradford Street, and all necessary supervision and after-care treatment of these cases is carried out by the Staff there. During the year 145 attendances were made at the Orthopædic Clinic.

ULTRA VIOLET RAY CLINIC.

24 patients suffering from various non-pulmonary forms of Tuberculosis were treated by means of Ultra Violet Light at the clinic at No. 3 St. Paul's Terrace. The clinic is open all day on Tuesday and Thursday and is conducted by one of our masseuses who is fully competent and qualified to give treatment. Two Mercury Vapour Lamps are in use, the one a K.B.B. and the other a Hanovia.

715 attendances for treatment were made by these patients during the year, 14 patients being discharged from treatment as follows:—

Cured 5; Much Improved 3; Improved 3; Discontinued treatment 3.

HOME VISITS.

During the year the Nurse paid 201 first visits and 1,484 re-visits to the houses of the patients.

In only 52 cases were patients found to have a separate bedroom, and in only 17 cases was the patient found to have a separate bed.

As regards cleanliness and ventilation the following is a summary of the conditions ascertained:—

Clean 176. Fairly clean 22. Dirty 3.

In 197 cases through ventilation was found, and 4 patients were living in houses of the "back to back" type.

The following is an analysis of the houses occupied by the 201 cases visited as above.

No. of Rooms	1	2	3	4	5	More than 5
No. of Families	5	10	35	103	41	7
Average number in family	3.2	2.8	5.3	4.9	5.5	6
Average number of adults per family	2	2.2	2.9	3.1	4.3	4.9
Average number of children per family	1.2	0.6	2.4	1.8	1.2	1.1

It is to be noted that in 60 houses no children under 15 years of age were found.

HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS FAMILIES.

During the year the Health Committee decided on a scheme for re-housing Tuberculous persons. So far, 20 cases have been provided for under this scheme.

The aim is to provide a suitable environment in order that the patient is able to carry out "Sanatorium" methods at home, and at the same time to eliminate the risk of infection to members of the family. This is obtained by selection of suitable patients who must adhere to a list of specified rules and regulations, and are kept under constant supervision by the Dispensary Staff.

The houses allotted are non-parlour Council houses, semi-detached, with 3 bedrooms. The living room as well as a front bedroom in all the houses have a southerly aspect.

Hope Austral Hopper Type Steel framed windows are fitted in all the houses and this permits of 70% natural ventilation with a maximum amount

of natural lighting in each room. In the windows of this Hopper type the sill and head are always closed so that air entering the room is deflected upwards and maintains a constant circulation without draught. These windows give a very fine appearance to the houses which are known locally as "Sunshine Houses."

For the success of such a scheme as the above, much depends on the continuance of the valuable help of the Voluntary Tuberculosis After-Care Committee and in the very near future, an increase in the number of institutional beds available under the Council's scheme for the treatment of Tuberculosis, as at present only 52 beds are available for a disease which accounts for over 100 deaths per annum in this Borough.

NURSING OF ACUTE OR BEDRIDDEN PATIENTS.

During the year the District Nurses from the Victoria Nursing Institution have continued to give the necessary attention to all the Tuberculous cases referred to them by the Tuberculosis Officer. The arrangement, which came into operation in 1925, has been found in practice to be a most excellent one, the visits of skilled nurses to the homes of the patients have been much appreciated, having added greatly to the comfort of bedridden patients during an acute stage of their illness or during the last few weeks of life.

The Lady Superintendent of the Victoria Nursing Institution sends the following:—

Excellent work has been done in co-operation with the Health Committee of the Town Council in combating Tuberculosis, and the following particulars deal with this section only.

During the year ended December 31st, 1931, 42 cases of Tuberculosis were dealt with.

The numbers are as follows:—

Brought forward from 1930	..	..	6
New Cases	..	..	36
Total	..	..	42

The visits to 6 were discontinued; 22 died; 6 have been admitted to Hospital or Sanatoria, and there are 8 remaining on the books. There have been 3 repeat cases. A total of 2,371 visits have been paid to these cases during the year.

Appliances have been loaned out as follows:—Large Air or Water Beds 1; Air Rings 59; Back Rests 16; Mackintosh Sheets 14; Nursing Utensils 52; Crutches 1 pair; Spinal Carriages 7; Bath Chairs 7.

Surgical dressings have been done in 5 cases and dressings supplied to 3. Nourishment from the Sick Relief Fund has been given to 19 patients, bed and personal clothing to 8.

All patients who are unable to do so for themselves are blanket bathed once weekly, and in addition are washed daily, the head, back, heels, and all dependent parts, and the mouth cleansed daily. Many of these patients are in such an advanced condition that they need the greatest care and handling, which means a longer time devoted to them than others less ill.

Table X.

Number of Beds available for the treatment of Tuberculosis on the 31st December in Institutions belonging to the Council.

Name of Institution	For Pulmonary Cases		For Non-Pulmonary Cases		Total
	Adults	Children under 15	Adults	Children under 15	
Pelsall Hall Sanatorium	37	6	—	—	43
Royal Cripples' Hospitals Birmingham ..	—	—	2	7	9

Table XI.

Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment and Observation during the year in Institutions (other than Poor Law Institutions) approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

		In Institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.	In Institutions on Dec. 31.
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for observation	Adult males	—	1	1	—	—
	Adult females	—	—	—	—	—
	Children	1	2	3	—	—
	Total	1	3	4	—	—
Number of definitely tuberculous patients admitted for treatment.	Adult males	17	50	45	2	20
	Adult females	14	50	41	6	17
	Children	15	17	19	—	13
	Total	46	117	105	8	50
GRAND TOTAL ..		47	120	109	8	50

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

In the previous tables as supplied to the Ministry of Health, are given details of patients belonging to Walsall who have received Institutional Treatment under the Local Tuberculosis Scheme whether at Pelsall Hall Sanatorium or at any other Institution to which they have been sent by the Local Authority.

From Table XI, it will be seen that an average number of 52 beds have been available for Walsall patients, and that 120 patients were admitted to these beds during the year, 109 being discharged and 8 having a fatal termination.

Table XII.
Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely Tuberculous Patients discharged during the year from Institutions approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Classification on admission to the Institution.	CONDITION AT TIME OF DISCHARGE.	DURATION OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE INSTITUTION.															GRAND TOTAL			
		Under 3 months.						3—6 months.			6—12 months.			More than 12 months.				Totals		
		F.		Ch.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	Ch.					Ch.
		M.	F.	M.	Ch.		M.	F.		M.	Ch.		M.	F.				M.	F.	M.		F.	M.	F.	Ch.
Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent ..	8	6	4	6	12	2	1	1	2	..	..	1	15	19	9	43	
	Not Quiescent ..	5	8	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	9	..	14
	Died in Institution ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Class T.B. plus. Group 1.	Quiescent ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
	Not Quiescent ..	2	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	6
	Died in Institution ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Class T.B. plus. Group 2.	Quiescent ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Not Quiescent ..	7	3	..	4	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	12	8	..	20
	Died in Institution ..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	4

PELSALL HALL SANATORIUM.

On January 1st, 1932, there were 16 males, 14 females and 6 children under the age of 15 under treatment.

During the year 51 males, 49 females, and 17 children were admitted, and 46 males, 40 females, and 19 children discharged.

There were 8 deaths, 2 males and 6 females. In 34 of the male and 20 of the female patients, Tubercle Bacilli were found in the sputum.

Eleven Ex-Servicemen, chargeable to the Ministry of Pensions, received treatment at the Sanatorium during the year.

Of the total admissions, 39 had previously had a course of Sanatorium treatment, 11 were classified as T.B. plus I, 34 as T.B. plus II, 9 as T.B. plus III, 51 as T.B. minus, 9 were non-pulmonary cases and 3 cases were admitted for the purposes of observation.

From Table XII, it will be noted that 46 cases were discharged as Quiescent, 43 of whom never demonstrated the presence of Tubercle Bacilli in the sputum. 52 cases out of the total 101 remained under 3 months in the Institution, while 40 remained from 3 to 6 months.

TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE.

The work of the Committee has proceeded steadily throughout the year, and appropriate grants have been made from time to time to improve the condition of the patients.

The income has been approximately £40, and the expenditure £68, leaving a balance in hand at the end of the year of £25.

64 necessitous families have been provided with gifts of clothing by the Civic Guild of Help and 62 patients received extra nourishment from the Committee for varying periods throughout the year.

361 reports on cases have been submitted and 451 home visits paid by the Civic Guild of Help.

Where possible, assistance has been obtained from Ex-Service Organisations and local charities.

Twenty-seven Christmas parcels were sent to deserving families who were under the care of the Committee, and throughout the year, the Committee have made grants of bedclothing (especially to patients entering Sunshine Houses), dressing gowns for advanced cases, and coal; and have advanced the necessary sums to place patients who were in arrears in benefit for National Health Insurance.

A substantial amount has been expended on providing the children of tubercular parents with holiday treatment during the summer months, special arrangements being made with the Hon. Secretary of the Children's Country Holiday Fund for this purpose. A Sub-Committee which reported to the main Committee was formed to take over this work.

Spinal Carriages and Bath Chairs have been kept in repair and lent out when necessary.

The Guild of Help continues, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, to carry out the work of investigation on behalf of the Committee, and to report to the Committee at their monthly meetings. We are indebted to the Honorary Registrar (Miss Elliot) and to the Secretary (Miss Fenn) for the valuable assistance they have given to the Committee.

The After-Care Committee have subscribed two guineas to the Walsall Winter Convalescent Fund Society.

WALSALL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year ended 31st December, 1931.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Report of the work of the School Medical Service for the year ended 31st December, 1931.

1. STAFF.

The Medical Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer, and three Assistant Medical Officers, one of whom devotes her whole time to the work of the School Medical Service. An additional Medical Officer, whose duties comprise Maternity and Child Welfare work, School Medical Work and General Health work, commenced duties in July, 1931.

The Dental Staff consists of one whole time Dental Surgeon, Mr. Parsons, L.D.S.

The Nursing Staff consists of ten Health Visitors, to each of whom is allotted a district in which they are responsible for every aspect of health visiting under the Education, Health, and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees.

In addition one nurse is attached to the Dental Clinic, and attends the schools during the routine Dental Inspections, and two nurses are attached to the Minor Ailments Clinics, one being responsible for the Central Clinic, Bradford Street, and the other for the branch Clinics at Littleton Street and Field Road.

At the Orthopædic Clinic, two Masseuses are employed, a third spending two days each week at the Ultra-Violet Light Clinic, and the remainder of her time in the Massage Department. All are seconded from the Royal Cripples Hospital.

2. ACCOMMODATION.

In 1931 there were in Walsall:—

- (a) 18 provided Schools with 37 departments; of these
- (b) 8 are Senior Schools, and
- (c) 2 are Central Schools with one department each.
- (d) 11 non-provided Schools with 16 departments.
- (e) 1 Open-Air Day School for delicate children.
- (f) The Beacon Residential School, Lichfield, for mentally defective children.

The number of children on the register on 31st December, 1931 was 17,243, and the average attendance during the year was 16,073.

3. SCHOOL HYGIENE AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

During the year a new Junior Mixed Department with accommodation for 388 children was opened at Blakerall Heath, the new extension conforming in type to the rest of the School buildings opened in 1928. A new School was also opened at Chuckery, comprising Junior Mixed and Infant Departments and having accommodation for 400 children in each department.

At Field Road a new school—'Senior Girls' Department with accommodation for 480 children was completed during the year.

Increased provision has also been made for Senior children at Chuckery School.

At Croft Street, a practical room has been fitted up and other extensive alterations carried out; at the Open-Air School a new rest room has been provided. At Croft Street a temporary wooden building with accommodation for 150 children has been erected.

The Managers of Bloxwich C.E. School have carried out extensive alterations and additions during the year, and they are to be congratulated for the very great improvements which they have made.

Electric light has been installed at Bath Street, Butts, Chuckery (Senior Boys' and Girls' Departments), Leamore and Field Road.

Improvements to the Sanitary conveniences have been made at Croft Street, Leamore, Hillary Street and Wisemore.

At Field Road a new Dental Clinic has been erected and will be brought into use during 1932.

In addition to the improvements specified many other improvements have been carried out in various schools.

Warm Baths for Children. In February, 1931, the Baths and Parks Committee inaugurated a scheme most beneficial to the welfare of the children attending the elementary schools, the use of the Slipper Baths, both at Tower Street and Bloxwich were made available for them at a charge of 1d. for a warm bath. During the first quarter of the year, the facilities thus afforded were largely taken advantage of, during February and March, 1,327 baths being provided. This enthusiasm unfortunately did not last long, and during the last quarter of the year the slipper baths were only used on 80 occasions under the scheme. During the year these baths were utilised by school children on 2,145 occasions.

4. MEDICAL INSPECTION.

During the year 4,780 children were examined at routine inspections as follows:—

Children admitted for the first time during the year ..	1,416
Children comprising the intermediate group	1,793
Children of the age of 12 or 13	1,571
Other routine inspections	—
Total	4,780

as against 5,091 in 1930. 792 children were re-inspected as against 429 and 5,819 special inspections were made as against 7,363.

The results of re-inspection showed that of the 792 children treatment had been obtained in 482 cases, in 359 cases the defect had been remedied, in 123 cases there was some improvement noted, whilst in 310 cases no treatment of any kind had been obtained. In every case where a defect is discovered at the routine medical inspection, the parent is notified as to the nature of the defect and treatment is advised. Facilities are provided at the School Clinics for the treatment of all minor ailments and through the various schemes in operation under the School Medical Service for almost every variety of treatment and it is rather deplorable that so large a proportion—nearly 40% failed to take advantage of the facilities provided.

In addition to the notification sent to the parents, all cases are followed up by the Health Visitors. The bulk of the cases where no treatment had been obtained were cases of Dental Caries and Enlarged Tonsils, etc.

5. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS AND ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

In order that parents may have the opportunity of being present at the routine medical examination of their children, an intimation is sent out from the schools in good time. The response during the past year has been on the whole fairly good, 62% of the parents attending. In the case of the entrants 85% of the parents attended, the highest percentage yet recorded; in the intermediate group 62%, and in the senior group 43%.

A list of the defects found at the medical inspection is sent to each Head Teacher immediately after the inspection, so that he or she may have full knowledge of what medical inspection has revealed, and may use his or her influence with the parents in having early treatment carried out.

I again take this opportunity to record my appreciation of the close and cordial co-operation which exists between the school teachers, the attendance officers and the medical staff. The work of medical inspection frequently entails much inconvenience to teachers, particularly when there is a lack of special accommodation for this purpose. The teachers, however, can do much to facilitate that work, and they can also afford us valuable help at their interviews with parents by impressing upon them that the advice of the Medical Officer regarding their children should be taken.

I am also indebted to the attendance officers for their valuable help in dealing with defaulters and chronic absentees.

Our thanks are due to Inspector Pateman of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for his very valuable assistance during the year in dealing with irresponsible parents. The work which we call upon him to do is oftentimes disagreeable and unpleasant, but by his courtesy and tactful methods, he achieves in most cases the desired end.

6. FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

As a result of the routine inspections, 807 children out of a total of 4,780 or 16.88%, were found to be suffering from defects which required treatment. Details of the defects will be found in the Statistical Tables.

These results show that a lower percentage of the children examined in all code groups were found to have defects, 16% of the entrants being found defective, 17% of the intermediates, and 17% of the leavers.

Amongst the more serious defects found defective vision again heads the list, 238 children being found to require treatment for this complaint. In addition, 43 children were found to be suffering from a marked degree of squint requiring treatment.

Enlarged tonsils, or adenoids, or both, were found in 369 cases. There were 41 cases of Bronchitis, and 69 cases of physical deformity.

There were 41 cases of defective hearing, and 10 of middle ear disease.

7. FOLLOWING UP.

Immediately after each medical inspection at a school, information is sent to the parents of children requiring attention, and where necessary this is followed up by a visit to the house by a health visitor.

During the year the health visitors spent 257 half days at medical inspections in the schools, and afterwards paid 1,414 visits to children in their own homes. In addition, 514 half days were spent in the schools for clear liness

survey purposes, 45,257 children being examined. 4,447 individual children were found to be unclean and 2,585 notes were sent to parents in respect of these children. These figures indicate that 9.8% of the children examined as against 4.9% in the previous year, were found to show in some degree verminous conditions of the head or body. It is true that part of the increase is due to greater attention being paid to known offenders, but this does not account by any means for the whole increase. Health Visitors have informed me that after holiday periods the number of "dirty" children at school is always much higher than at any other period of the term.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year in connection with such cases, either under the Education Act, 1921, or under the School Attendance Bye-Laws.

8. THE SCHOOL CLINICS.

Minor ailments constitute by far the greater number of cases attending the school clinics, and during the year 13,444 attendances were made at Bradford Street, 7,029 at Littleton Street, and 4,968 at Field Road Clinics, as against 10,998 attendances at Bradford Street, 7,150 at Littleton Street, and 3,071 at Field Road Clinics during 1930.

The clinics are now open as under:—

		Bradford St.	Littleton St.	Field Road.
MONDAY	a.m.	Medical Session	Dressings	—
	p.m.	—	—	Dressings
TUESDAY	a.m.	Dressings	Medical Session	—
	p.m.	Dressings	—	—
WEDNESDAY	a.m.	Medical Session	Dressings	—
	p.m.	—	—	Dressings
THURSDAY	a.m.	Eye Examinat'ns	Dressings	—
	p.m.	Dressings	—	—
FRIDAY	a.m.	Dressings	Medical Session	—
	p.m.	—	—	Medical Session
SATURDAY	a.m.	Eye Examinat'ns	Dressings	—
		—	Rheumatic Clinic	—

The School Clinic premises remain as formerly, at Bradford Street the congestion particularly on Doctor's days is by no means pleasant.

Whilst our scheme for medical treatment of school children is now fairly complete, we have not yet been able to make any arrangements for the X-ray treatment for cases of Ringworm.

9. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

Our Orthopædic Scheme has now been in force for five years. The clinic, conducted at the Central School Clinic in Bradford Street, consists of:

- (1) An examination room.
- (2) A splint and plaster room.
- (3) A massage and electrical room.

The work of the clinic has expanded so much that it has been found necessary to have a medical session practically every fortnight, instead of once a month as formerly.

The Massage Department is staffed by two fully qualified Masseuses, who gives her whole time, and one who gives three days weekly to this work. In addition, two specially qualified nurses spend one half day per week in Walsall for after-care purposes, adjusting splints, replacing plaster, dressings and so on. The Surgeon-in-Charge, Mr. Percival Mills, F.R.C.S., visits the clinic twice monthly, and sees all cases referred to him.

Arrangements were made during the year with the Education Authority of the Staffordshire County Council for their orthopædic cases to be examined and treated at the Walsall Clinic. During the year 28 cases were referred under this arrangement for examination by the Surgeon Specialist. Arrangements also continued in force with the Education Authority of Wednesbury and with the Maternity and Child Welfare Committees of Wednesbury and Darlaston, 27 cases being referred to the clinic by these authorities during the year.

359 Walsall cases were examined by the Surgeon Specialist during the year (236 Education, 16 Tuberculosis, 103 Maternity and Child Welfare

and 4 other cases) and 1,492 attendances were made by these patients for treatment. The following is an analysis of the cases seen with the number of those discharged from treatment with their defects remedied.

	Examined	Cured
Paralysis	51	2
Rickets	11	1
Congenital Deformities ..	14	1
Tuberculosis	16	4
Scoliosis	77	10
Foot Deformities	74	4
Postural Deformities	33	6
Knock Knees	11	2
Bow Legs	13	1
Torticollis	6	1
Other Cases	53	13
	<hr/> 361 <hr/>	<hr/> 45 <hr/>

Of the 45 cases discharged 29 were Education cases, 2 Tuberculosis, 10 Maternity and Child Welfare and 2 other cases.

In addition 84 other cases were discharged from the Bradford Street clinic as follows:—

Transferred to Broad St. Clinic (over age)	9 cases
Refused treatment	8 "
Non-attendance	31 "
Referred to other hospitals	12 "
Under own doctors	2 "
No treatment advised	8 "
To report if further trouble	10 "
Left the district	3 "
Gone to "Faith Healer"	1 "
	<hr/>
Total ..	84
	<hr/>

At the Massage Clinic 188 Walsall cases were dealt with (Education 152, Tuberculosis 1, Maternity and Child Welfare 35), these cases making 6,307 attendances for treatment.

The cases dealt with included:—

Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	100	cases.
Flat Feet	..	..	..	..	20	"
Rickets	..	..	..	..	19	"
Anterior Poliomyelitis			..	..	14	"
Infantile Hemiplegia	..	..	..	..	9	"
Congenital Dislocation of Hip				..	2	"
Other Congenital Deformities				..	5	"
Birth Palsy	..	..	..	..	5	"
Torticollis	..	..	..	..	3	"
Monoplegia	..	..	..	..	3	"
Diplegia	..	..	..	..	2	"
Tuberculous Joint	..	..	..	..	1	"
Other conditions	..	..	..	..	5	"

Seventy-four cases were discharged from treatment during the year (Education 58, Tuberculosis 0, Maternity and Child Welfare 16) the results being as follows:—

					Left	Refused	Admitted to	
				Cured	Improved	District Treatment	Hospital	
Scoliosis..	..	..	14	5	2	9	—
Flat Feet	..	..	3	6	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	6	—	—	2
Rickets	..	..	1	5	—	—	—
Infantile Hemiplegia	..	..	—	3	—	1	1
Congenital Dislocation of Hip				—	—	1
Other Congenital Deformities				..	1	3	—	—
Birth Palsy	..	..	—	1	—	—	—
Torticollis	..	..	1	—	—	—	—
Monoplegia	..	..	—	2	—	—	—
Diplegia	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
Other Conditions	..	..	4	—	—	—	—
				25	31	2	11	5

17 Education cases were admitted from the Walsall Clinic for in-patient treatment at the Orthopædic Hospital or at The Woodlands.

Mr. Mills, F.R.C.S., the Surgeon Specialist in charge sends the following observations upon the work of the clinic during the year.

"The work during the past year shows a gratifying increase. With a few exceptions the patients have attended regularly though in certain instances there has been considerable difficulty owing to the inability of parents to bring them. It is quite clear that treatment has been greatly appreciated by the patients and the results have been satisfactory. I would particularly like to emphasize the value of treating incipient spinal curvatures in the early stages. These cases are discovered by the School Medical Officers and sent to me before any serious deformity has developed, and as a result I believe many of these children are prevented from growing up with a serious and progressive deformity.

Though I can hardly hope that the authorities will be able to spend money at the present time I ought to put it on record that the building in which the Clinic is held cannot be considered really satisfactory for its purpose."

10. ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

The work of this clinic has again increased greatly during the year, the total attendances made by children being 4,461 as against 2,715 in 1930.

Two Mercury Vapour Lamps are in use, the one a K.B.B. and the other a Hanovia, and the clinic, which is open all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is staffed by one of our masseuses, who is fully competent and qualified to give treatment.

50 School children were treated during the year and they made 855 attendances for treatment.

The following is a summary of the conditions treated:—

Debility	..	..	..	..	13
Alopecia	..	..	..	..	17
Rheumatism	..	..	..		4
Eye affections	..	..	..		7
Other conditions		..	..		9
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>

25 children were discharged from treatment, the results being as follows:—

	Cured	Very much Improved	Improved	Discontinued Treatment	Total
Debility.. ..	3	—	—	2	5
Alopecia ..	5	4	1	1	11
Eye affections ..	2	1	—	—	3
Other conditions	1	5	—	—	6

The average time for general baths is 3 minutes at 2 feet, the minimum dose in an ordinary case is from 20 to 30 seconds at 2 feet, and the maximum from 10 to 20 minutes at 2 feet. The period of treatment is a first period of from two to three months, and when this is insufficient a further period of six weeks is given, the patient being examined by the Medical Officer at the end of each period. Treatment is given as a rule twice a week.

11. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Non-notifiable Disease. 466 cases of Measles were notified during the first quarter of the year, 41 in the second quarter, 4 in the third quarter, and 4 in the fourth quarter, a total of 515 cases.

10 cases of mumps were notified during the year.

374 cases of Chickenpox and 84 cases of Whooping Cough were also notified from the schools during the year.

Scarlet Fever. 144 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified to the Health Department during the year, 96 in children of school age. The cases were of a mild type, and complications were few.

Diphtheria. 122 cases of Diphtheria were notified to the Health Department during the year, as against 151 in 1930. Of the total 74 were children of school age.

The campaign for the immunization of school children was continued during the year, all the schools in the borough being visited. This work is now a routine part of the school medical activities. The preliminary test in the case of children has now been abandoned as a routine measure, the majority of young children being susceptible to the disease.

A total of 1,662 children were treated for the first time, and 929 children were re-tested. In addition 29 children under school age received a full course of immunizing doses at the Welfare Centres. 1,656 children received a first course during the year, in only six of these was the preliminary test made, 29 children received a partial course, and in 6 others the test was negative. Of children treated in previous years 573 were re-tested, 76 again reacted to the test, showing that they were still susceptible to the disease. Of these 75 received a further course of treatment. Of the 497 who were schick-negative, 25 had received two full courses, and 2 had received three full courses in previous years. 356 children who had given a negative schick-reaction in previous years were also re-tested, 43 were found to react and all of these were immunised.

4,900 children and adults have now been immunised against Diphtheria during the past 4 years. During 1931 two children previously immunised against Diphtheria were admitted to Hospital, one, a boy immunised in May 1930, was admitted to Hospital in April 1931, with a mild attack of what appeared to be clinical Diphtheria, although this was not confirmed bacteriologically, the other a girl immunised in 1928 but not retested was admitted in July 1931, with a mild attack of Diphtheria confirmed bacteriologically.

Up to the end of 1931, 7,312 children and adults have been dealt with, and 4,900 have been protected against the disease.

No more striking testimony as to the value of immunisation can be given than the following paragraphs relating to our activities in Walsall which are taken from Dr. J. Graham Forbes' book on "Diphtheria—Its Distribution and Prevention" published in 1932.

"In a school of 178 boys, during the last fortnight in May (1930), 9 cases of Diphtheria occurred in one class; and in the course of investigation, 16 carriers were found in the school, but none of the 8 boys who had been immunised were attacked.

During the Michaelmas term, in four mixed schools in the same ward, among over 2,000 senior and junior children and infants, a total of 28 cases of Diphtheria occurred, yielding an attack rate of 14 per 1,000. But, among 562 children (28 per cent of the school roll) who had been immunised, not one was attacked."

SMALLPOX.

There were no cases of Smallpox amongst school children during the year.

Under the revised regulations of the Board of Education, Certificates covering periods of low attendances at the undermentioned schools were issued for the following dates:—

Week ending period	School	Reason for low attendance
9th January, 1931	Palfrey Infants	Measles
20th February, 1931	Elmore Green Infants ..	Measles

12. OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

We have pleasure in including the following most interesting report furnished by the Headmistress, Miss C. A. Claydon, upon the work of the Open Air School.

"Steady work, happiness and peaceful progress have been the key-notes of this year's work at the Open Air School; and no factor has contributed so much to the increased smoothness of working as the erection of the new rest room. Gone is the old-time struggle to crowd the camp-beds into the small classrooms so that the children might not miss their midday rest on wet days. Gone is the necessity, previously existing in bad weather, for confining the activities of the children to two small rooms. For the commodious new rest shelter now gives scope for physical and musical activities which keep the children warm and healthy even when outdoor work and exercise are impossible.

Even the weather, however, during the last few months has been unusually kind to the school, and in the mild November and December days the walks abroad have revealed new beauties of Nature to observant eyes. Fine days in winter provide exceptional opportunities for tree study, for then the characteristic shapes of the trees and their typical branchings are so clearly silhouetted against the pale sky. Some forms of gardening, too, have been possible almost throughout the year, and have provided healthy and enjoyable out-door work which has further stimulated the children's interest in Nature's unfolding wonders.

With the quiet tenor of its way seldom interrupted by visitors from the busy world, this little school is able to foster a happy family spirit which soothes tired nerves, and encourages a cheerful and healthy attitude of mind. Many of the children, when admitted, are suffering from anaemia, debility or nerve trouble, and it is a real joy to see their rapid return to health and happiness under the care-free conditions of the school. Many cases of eye trouble have also shown quick and gratifying improvement in the open-air life here followed. Indeed, all the scholars have responded well to the fresh-air treatment; the general standard of health has been good, the attendance very satisfactory, and the spread of epidemics unknown.

In the course of the year all the places in the school, with three exceptions, have been vacated by children well enough to return to the normal schools, and refilled by new children in need of care and fresh air. Dr. L. C. Adam, on her monthly visits, deals with great care and sympathy with cases under consideration for transfer, so as to ensure, if possible, a complete re-establishment of health before a child is called upon to face the full pace life of the ordinary school.

Nourishing and appetizing food, plentiful in supply, though economical in choice and preparation, have done much towards building up the physique of these delicate children; and it is indeed a source of wonderment that the cook is able to produce such excellent and varied dinners for sixty children in spite of her very limited cooking accommodation.

Attention to cleanliness and the care of the teeth form important features of the daily routine, and play their part in the campaign for better health for our children.

Encouragement and reward still come to us from time to time in the form of visits from old scholars who love to come back to the school and revive happy memories of their sojourn here, and the benefits then gained. It is pleasing to know that most of these have found healthy and suitable employment, and that one or two, at least, have very promising careers opening out before them.

13. NURSERY CLASSES.

Children between the ages of 4 and 5 years are now admitted to a number of schools where accommodation is available and valuable work is being done in character training and in the formation of good habits. During the last term of the school year 226 of these "under fives" were specially examined by the School Medical Inspectors in 23 schools. In these children the following defects were noted, 60 of the children or 26.5% being found to require treatment for one or other defect.

			No. of Children suffering from	No. of Children requiring treatment
Defective Teeth	..	..	.. 59	10
Enlarged Tonsils or Adenoids				
or both	..	..	.. 93	35
Strabismus	..	..	.. 10	7
Defective Hearing	..	..	.. 1	—
Heart Disease	..	..	.. 5	1
Bronchitis	..	..	.. 17	6
Anaemia	..	..	.. 4	—
Other Deformities	..	..	.. 8	1
Mentally Defective	..		.. 2	—
Malnutrition	..	..	.. 16	—
Enlarged Glands	..	..	.. 26	—
			—	—
Total	..	..	.. 241	60
			—	—

From the above table it will be observed that the principal defects noted were enlarged tonsils or adenoids or both, 93 children or 41.1% being found to suffer from this complaint, not all of these children require operative treatment but all have to be kept under observation. 59 children or 26.1% were suffering from defective teeth and although only 10 of these were

recommended for immediate treatment as cases of gross defect, the large percentage of young children suffering from dental defect indicates how little importance the average parent attaches to dental caries, more particularly to caries of the temporary teeth. Many parents look upon dental inspection and treatment as a fad, and it is only when their child suffers from a "gumboil" or toothache that they are willing for their child to have dental treatment. They have not yet realised that early dentistry is painless dentistry. These statements are confirmed by the School Dental Officer who states that of the children inspected and found to require treatment, 44% fail to take advantage of the facilities offered.

26 children were found to be suffering from enlarged glands—a frequent concomitant of unhealthy throat conditions or of dental sepsis.

10 children suffered from squint, 16 from Malnutrition and 17 from Bronchitis.

The presence of the defects enumerated above indicate that the nutrition of the average child is at fault, he is suffering not from lack of food but from a lack of quality. "Probably in no other field is the public so conservative and so indifferent. Food and feeding is such a personal affair" (Cathcart). Whilst we are doing our best to spread knowledge, we have to reckon with such potent factors as custom, fashion, prejudice. Dietary habits once formed are not readily modified and so in poverty the choice of food is sadly limited.

We are indebted to Miss Blenkinsop, Headmistress, Hillary Street Infants' School, for the following interesting report on the work of her Nursery Class, which was started in September, 1930.

"The Nursery Class continues to be a great success. Catering as it does for a younger age group than formerly, it is still in the experimental stage.

As time goes on we are convinced that the bias of the Nursery Class movement towards hygiene, good physical habits and life in the open air is a right one. We therefore proceed to develop the child's physical side as well as his intellectual.

Hygienic Arrangements. Children are provided with individual towels for washing. They recognise their own by symbols—cut out silhouettes or pictures of animals. A different one is put over the peg of each child.

The dolls, their clothes and bedclothes often present grave difficulty in keeping clean if the children are allowed to use them freely. These are washed every other week by the children, supervised by the teacher, on 'Dollies' Wash-day.' We feel that to gain success in the Nursery Class, clearliness is essential, consequently children are encouraged to keep their room tidy, their lunch tables clean and beautiful with flowers and artistic table cloths. The parents are invited to see the children wash before lunch, to see them at lunch and to watch the children clear away everything without the aid of the teacher. To use an often quoted expression of parents when they see the children thus, 'Ain't it nice!'

The Nursery Class has proved an excellent indirect method of training the parents. Parents bring the tiny ones to school and of course are in constant communication with the teacher. Discussions have taken place between the two parties on various points, e.g. suitable amount of sleep for children—the best food for delicate children. Six children have been discovered to be very under-fed and as an experiment we are feeding these children with malt every morning. A considerable improvement has been noticed in the development of these children. Nor can the teacher hold a few minutes conversation with a group of mothers watching their children in the free atmosphere of the Nursery Class without realizing that the parents appreciate the safety and control of the happy school. Indeed we have found parents anxious to pick up any information on the lines of child management. I feel that the Nursery Class has unquestionably raised the standard of the mother and the home. Records of various children are now being kept.

We are hoping in the near future to have a small garden attached to the Nursery Class, as in my opinion one of the essential features of the Nursery Class is the school garden. At this early period of childhood, Nature makes vivid impressions on the mind and feelings; life of plants and animals attract him and he busies himself with whatever he can find living and growing about him, so we propose growing flowers for table decoration (looked after by the children themselves). Keeping one or two pets will help satisfy the child's love of things alive."

14. MILK IN SCHOOLS.

In the early part of the year particulars were obtained from all the schools in the Borough as to the supply of milk to children during school hours.

Enquiries revealed that in 29 departments including 7 infant departments no milk was being supplied, whilst in 32 departments it was the custom to supply milk in some form or other, and for varying periods. In all 1,515 children receive milk either during the winter months or throughout the whole year. Only 7 departments were using Grade "A" milk, although the price charged was similar to that for ordinary milk in bottles.

As a rule the parents pay for the milk although in many schools the teaching staff make themselves responsible for the supply of milk to the more needy children. We are convinced that the mid-morning milk is of enormous benefit to the health of the children and we are grateful to these teachers who have the interests of the children at heart and who do so much additional work in arranging for the supply of milk.

We should like to see the mid-morning supply of milk greatly extended and we are only too anxious to supply all the information we have at our disposal as to the best quality of milk etc. With all due respect we suggest that part of the money raised each year for the Mayor's Relief Fund might well be allocated for the supply of milk to the poorer children in our elementary schools.

15. THE SCHOOL CAMP.

The Children's Holiday Camp opened on 17th April and extended to September 28th, during which time ten "school" camp weeks, four "holiday" weeks and eight week-end camps were held.

In all 1,056 children (576 boys and 480 girls) were admitted to the camp during the season, including 48 girls who attended camp during August Bank Holiday Week as guests of the Walsall and District Co-operative Society.

There have been no extensions or alterations to the camp buildings during the year.

During the school weeks full use is made of the opportunities presented to do work which is almost impossible in the routine of the ordinary elementary school, and there is no doubt but that the pupils enter into the spirit of the camp life and enjoy to the full the short period which they spend in the country.

16. POOR CHILDREN'S COUNTRY HOLIDAY SOCIETY.

We are once more indebted to this Society for the valuable work they have done amongst our delicate school children, no less than 169 being sent away for a country holiday during the year. The bulk of the children are sent away during the August holiday, but any child convalescent from an illness whose parents are unable to afford the means, is accepted by the Society and dealt with at any period of the year. The Society's Country Home, "Lynwood"—is always open, and delicate children may remain for as long a period as is necessary to restore them to complete health. Of the 169 children sent away for a holiday, 84 were accommodated at Lynwood. Other children are sent to Rhyl for a period of a month upwards.

The Country Holiday Society is one of the greatest auxiliaries which the School Medical Service has.

17. PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

(a) **Blind.** Five totally blind and two partially blind children are being educated at various special schools certified for the purpose. In addition, thirteen partially blind children are attending elementary schools in the Borough, one other not being at school.

(b) **Deaf.** Ten totally deaf children and one partially deaf are being educated at special schools, ten partially deaf children being in attendance at the elementary schools, six not being at school (the majority of these being over 14 years of age).

(c) **Cripples.** The total number of children suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere with a child's normal mode of life was 259. Of that number 217 were in attendance at the Elementary schools.

(d) **Heart Disease.** 47 children are known to have heart disease of a severe degree, 29 of these being in attendance at the elementary schools, and 18 not at school.

The majority of these children are kept under observation at the Rheumatic Clinic which is conducted on Saturday mornings at the Littleton Street Clinic by Dr. Edward A. Johnston, Assistant Medical Officer of Health to whom we are indebted for the following report upon the work of the clinic.

"A Clinic for rheumatic cases was opened on the 12th September, 1931 and is held on Saturday mornings at Littleton Street Clinic and Welfare Centre between the hours of 10 and 12-30. The number of cases seen at the Clinic was 51 and new cases are still coming up for examination and advice at each session. The total number of attendances was 166 giving an average attendance of 13.8 per session. The response of the parents has thus been very gratifying.

The chief aim of the clinic has been to prevent, as far as possible, the recurrence of acute attacks of rheumatism. We try to do this by advising the parents with regard to the earliest signs of recurrence and the measures to be adopted in such cases. Parents are also encouraged and advised to have all septic foci dealt with, e.g. teeth, tonsils, etc.

They are also advised as to suitable treatment for anæmia and general debility which are so important factors in the rheumatic case. The fact that sufficient rest is absolutely essential in the rheumatic life and that anything which in any way tires the patients is detrimental to his welfare is always impressed upon the parent.

Arrangements have been made with the Manor Hospital whereby cases which require hospital treatment are admitted to that institution.

A classification of the cases attending the Clinic is given below;—

Total number of attendances	Male	..	20	
	Female	..	31	
			—	Total 51
Rheumatism	Male	..	19	
	Female	..	31	
			—	Total 50
Non-Rheumatism	Male	..	1	
	Female	..	—	
			—	Total 1
Rheumatism and Heart Disease	Male	..	11	
	Female	..	16	
			—	Total 27
Chorea	Male	..	6	
	Female	..	3	
			—	Total 9
Total number of rheumatic cases	..		50."	

18. MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

At the end of the year the number of educable mentally defective (feeble-minded) children ascertained was 174 as against 151 at the end of 1930. In addition, 30 children were notified to the Statutory Committee under Section 2 (subsections 2b and 4) of the Mental Deficiency Regulations as follows :—

Imbeciles	7
Unable to be instructed in a special school	16
Notified on leaving a special school	7

As noted in previous reports, the lack of special day classes in the Borough for children of this type is a handicap. A few classes for retarded children have already been formed in the Senior Schools and these are doing much valuable work. We still, however, suffer from some difficulty in the notification of mentally defective children who leave school at the age of 14 but who cannot be passed over to the Statutory Committee until the age of 16. Every endeavour is made however by the Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare to supervise these children and to keep a friendly eye upon them.

At the Occupation Centre—now transferred to more suitable and commodious premises in Hatherton Street—the lower grade defective is catered for. The centre is a full time one. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the Junior class (27 on the roll) attend from 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. taking lunch at the centre. Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are devoted to the Seniors (17 on the roll). Steady progress is being made in the instruction and training of the defectives who are keenly interested in their work.

The following report of the work carried out by the Civic Guild of Help during the year for the Education Authority in the way of supervision and after-care, has been received.

Ascertainment at 31st December, 1931 :—

Feeble-minded	163
Epileptic and Borderline	131
	—
Total	294
	—

739 visits have been paid to the homes of children during the year.

25 children are in residence at the Beacon School, Lichfield.

18 names were removed from the Register, on the defectives attaining the age of 16, 3 were removed as not being mentally defective, and 30 cases have been referred to the Local Authority as subject to be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913-1927.

New cases were ascertained during the year, and first visits paid as follows:—

Feeble-minded	..	..	..	55
Epileptic and Borderline	..	..	..	64
				<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	119
				<hr/>

13 of these were referred to the Statutory Authority, 2 were transferred to the Beacon School and 3 were admitted to the Occupation Centre. During the year 24 children on the Register left school, 12 have obtained work, 11 are employed, the other, a feeble-minded girl whose mother died during the year is now looking after the home and doing very well.

Quarterly reports are submitted to the Education Committee, and special reports on the home conditions, as necessity arises. Special visits are made and reports prepared for the School Medical Officer.

Boots and clothing have been supplied to necessitous defective children from the Archer Charity and Rotary Clothing Drive. Grants have been made through the United Services Fund, the Heath Trust and other Ex-Service Funds in cases of sickness. Fares have been paid to enable parents to visit their children at Beacon School and for other purposes.

Mr. G. F. Taylor (Superintendent) sends the following report on the work of the School during the year:—

“Admission and Discharges. The School has continued full throughout the year, accommodating 32 girls and 45 boys. Twenty-five of our children are from Walsall and the remaining 52 are gathered from 27 various Authorities up and down the country.

During the year 22 children have been discharged and a corresponding number have been admitted. So large an influx of new children in one year is not desirable in so small a school, and if the age of admission can be kept down, it will not recur. For children to derive the utmost benefit from Special School training, early ascertainment of their mental condition and prompt admission to a suitable school should be the aim of the responsible authority, for delay is obviously unjust to the child and it is also a most serious drawback to the school that finally accepts him. Our admissions for the last twelve months have averaged in age ten years exactly, which is rather high, and consequently three have had to be grouped with the senior pupils, which is unfortunate both for themselves and for the class. The many who have been started at the bottom of the School will have the benefit of the complete course of training. Of our 22 discharges, four were withdrawn before reaching our age limit; one died in Hospital from Tuberculous Meningitis, eight proceeded to their parents and nine to institutions. It should be recognized that many boys and girls have to be provided with institutional accommodation on leaving us by reason of the fact that they are really Public Assistance cases, having no responsible connections, while others there are those whose home conditions are so deplorable that to return them to such environment would tend to cancel out the benefit the child had derived from school training. In institutions many such cases can be largely self supporting and reasonably happy.

Health. The health of the children has been highly satisfactory throughout the year—there has been no infectious disease and they have enjoyed comparative immunity from Colds, Chilblains, Chaps, etc., so common among children of school age. The general physical development of the children has continued apace as the graphed records of the periodical weighings and measurings clearly reveal. In this connection it is to be regretted that the development of many of the children receives a decided check during their holidays at home.

The frequent visits of Dr. Clark, the Medical Officer of Health, and of members of his staff are in no small way responsible for the splendid health the children enjoy, and incidentally also for the small expense incurred under the heading Medical Attendance, which for five complete years has averaged £16 only. The conception that Mental Defectives enjoy a compensating physical robustness has long been proved an error and it cannot be too strongly emphasized that children of the type we accommodate are defective in the physical sense as in the mental, though in a manner that is less apparent

Their powers of resistance are comparatively low so that they are more prone to sickness, and as a rule more difficult to nurse when sick than normal children. The children have been examined by the School Medical Officer in routine examinations twice during the year, and one thorough investigation has been made during the year into each child's mental condition.

The School Dentist treated sixteen children at the School and twenty-six at the Bradford Street Clinic early in the year. No child has been known to complain of toothache throughout the twelve months. Periodical vision tests have been made and seventeen of our children wear spectacles as compared with twenty-four last year.

Education and Training. As compared with 1930, the average intelligence quotient as determined by the Terman Revision of the Binet Simon Intelligence Scale has risen from 66 to 68. This favourable increase is in some small way due to the higher type of admission through the year, for among our new children the average I.Q. was 70 as compared with 69 for the corresponding group in 1930.

A very gratifying indication of the general progress of the children is revealed by the Porteus Maze Tests which investigate practical ability, powers of adaptability, and certain character qualities. By these tests, the gain made over the 1930 score shows an average improvement of two years per child. For scholastic work, Professor Cyril Burt's Scholastic Tests are applied regularly each half year, and by their means we are able to ascertain whether classroom work is "getting home" with many of the children. Our records show pleasing results. The subjects tested were Reading, Arithmetic, Composition, Spelling, Writing and Drawing. We found that one child had made a full year's progress in five subjects; that one had done the same in four subjects; that six had done as much in three, similarly sixteen in two and fifteen in one subject. Thus thirty-nine scholars gave evidence of marked progress. As a comparison can be made in respect of 55 children only, for as has already been stated we admitted 22 during the year, the proportion of children making definite progress in classroom lessons is decidedly satisfactory.

In their manual work both boys and girls have been very successful. The Cobbling and the Gardening done by some of the senior boys is most creditable and the Needlework, the Cookery and the Laundrywork of the girls, as exhibited on Prize Day, was shown to be superior in excellence to any such work hitherto attempted. Mentally Defective children are in-

variably painfully slow in performance when thoroughness of execution is insisted upon, and it is therefore evidence of considerable progress when speed is acquired in Cobbling, for instance, and is unaccompanied by deterioration of workmanship. Some few senior children are developing speed and are attaining to a high standard of achievement in their practical work. Of the 22 children discharged during the year the greater number had made really extraordinary progress during their last twelve months in the School and one is again impressed with the importance of the years 14 to 16 in the training of M.D. children. Any attempt to reduce the school leaving age for such children would be most strenuously opposed by those who know the children best.

A significant indication of the improvement in type of our youngest scholars is in the fact that all our children are at the moment capable of dressing and undressing themselves and that even the smallest boys now make their own beds. For little ones of seven years this is no small achievement.

Recreation. The recreation of the children is carefully organised and while opportunity for free self expression is not denied them, a very close supervision is exercised over their leisure. Scouting and Guiding activities, occasional gymnastics, practising for cricket matches, swimming, evening occupations such as sewing, reading, table games, etc., all provide abundant scope for intelligent amusement; while visits to places of interest, e.g. a coal mine, a stonemason's yard, a tile works, prove of educational interest to the seniors. During the year our Scouts and Guides were presented with their Colours by Councillor E. B. Stammers. They were visited too by their Commissioners, and steady progress has been made. Guiding and Scouting with M.D. children is of course a very different thing to Guiding and Scouting with normals. Our children lack the serious ambition and the sense of honour as well as the intelligence of the normal. They learn so slowly that their achievement is comparatively humble. Such activities however are a valuable means of teaching them and undoubtedly many are making very real moral progress as a result of their Guide and Scout training.

Special Events. Apart from the events which are now established annual occasions, i.e. Prize Day, The Sports Evening, The Day trip to the Seaside, The Visit to Sutton Park—these last two occurring during the summer holidays—there have been no outstanding events during the year.

Our Prize Day, December 3rd was a particularly successful and happy occasion. The Mayor of Walsall, Alderman R. B. Sutton, presided, and the prizes were presented by Mrs. A. Brockhurst, the wife of our Chairman. A large audience of visitors from both Lichfield and Walsall packed the Hall and was profoundly interested in the proceedings. A programme of entertainment given by the children was thoroughly appreciated, the principal item being a performance of Dickens "Christmas Carol," in which the central character Scrooge, was played by Mr. L. Preston, our Cobbling Instructor.

An Exhibition and Sale of Work realised over £5 on small items only.

During December two entertainments were given, the first to an audience of children when some 150 Lichfield older boys and girls enjoyed a free show, and the second to adults. On this second occasion a collection of over £3 helped towards the purchase of the School stage.

The day at the seaside on July 21st was thoroughly enjoyed by the 36 children who were taken by motor coach to Rhyl, a period of six long hours on the sea front was a thrilling experience. In small parties the children were escorted from place to place and they explored from the child's point of view the many attractions Rhyl provides. Similarly, the day trip to Sutton Park also proved a great success and the picnic lunch in the woods a particularly delightful experience. The funds for this outing were generously provided by the Staff and friends, and enabled the children to exhaust the Fun Fair as well as to know the thrills of the Boating and the Swimming Pools.

Vacations. The usual holidays at Summer and Christmas were granted and about half of our number proceeded to their homes for longer or shorter periods. The Christmas holiday is of two weeks duration but the Summer holiday is longer, four weeks being allowed in certain cases. The children remaining at School always enjoy greater license during the holidays, and this year several of the older boys have been permitted to go for long walks into the country unattended, a privilege they have greatly appreciated, and one that has helped to develop their sense of responsibility.

Premises. During the year certain improvements have been made to the premises and the comfort of the children has been greatly enhanced. The bathrooms and playrooms have been equipped with efficient hot water systems, certain floor repairs have been effected and some internal decorating and painting has been done. In this last, the children themselves gave some assistance in the painting of the Manual Instruction Room.

Visitors. The School has been visited through the year by our Chairman, Councillor A. Brockhurst, J.P., by members of our Committee of Management and also by the Director of Education and the School Medical Officer.

An Open Day in October when some twenty Walsall teachers visited the School was a great success and it is to be hoped that such a visit may become an annual event.

19. DENTAL TREATMENT.

Although only 15 half days were devoted to the routine inspection of children in the age groups 5 to 7 by the School Dental Officer it should be remembered that dental inspection forms part of the normal inspection by the School Medical Officers and every child in the code groups—entrants, intermediates and leavers—is subjected to a close dental survey. Children with dental defect are referred either to private dental surgeons or to the School Dental Officer. Further these children are reinspected at a later period to see whether the necessary treatment has been obtained.

Mr. D. A. Parsons, L.D.S., the School Dental Officer reports that of the children inspected by him 84% were found to require treatment, but only 51% of those advised treatment actually attended at the Dental Clinic for treatment. In addition to those, 1,604 or 9.1% of the School population were treated at the Clinic as Special cases. We cannot expect any great reduction in the number of casual cases, i.e. outside the routine age groups, until our Dental Scheme is complete and all ages are inspected routinely.

It is a matter for regret that so many parents remain indifferent to their children's dental health, public opinion is backward and the process of education is slow and arduous.

This year a new Dental Clinic has been provided at Field Road, and will be brought into use during March 1932. This clinic will be utilised by all the schools in the northern end of the borough and should be of great advantage to the children there—we shall be disappointed if there is not a great improvement in the response from the parents in Bloxwich, Harden and Leamore for the inhabitants of these wards are notoriously backward in their willingness to accept dental treatment.

At the Beacon School, Lichfield, dental inspections are carried out regularly by the Dental Officer and the result is highly satisfactory. At the last inspection only 50% of the children required treatment, and apart from new admissions the bulk of the work was conservative. This happy state, in contrast to the dental state of the elementary school children may be put down largely to the regular habits and the excellent nutrition of the residential school child.

20. SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

699 pupils at Queen Mary's School were inspected during the year. 492 (381 boys, 111 girls) as routine inspections and 207 (70 boys and 137 girls) as revisions.

The principal defects found to require treatment were defective vision 34 cases, dental caries 46 cases. 31 cases of flat foot, 9 of spinal curvature, and 11 of other orthopædic defects were also noted, together with 34 cases of enlarged tonsils.

All cases of defect found at routine inspections are again re-examined at each subsequent medical inspection in the school, with the following result:—

Revisions 1931.

			Boys	Girls
Defect cured	..	..	24	47
" improved	..	..	15	32
" not improved		..	10	17
No treatment received		..	21	41
			—	—
Total	..	..	70	137
			—	—

After each medical inspection a list of all defects found is sent to the Headmaster and Headmistress respectively, and at the same time a letter is sent to the parent of each child with information as to the defect found and advising treatment. Should the defect not be treated when the doctor next visits the school a second or third note is again addressed to the parent.

The percentage of defective vision and of dental defect still remains high, these two defects alone account for the majority of the untreated cases. It is not that treatment is not available, it is principally because parents are indifferent.

I would thank the Headmaster and Headmistress for the great interest which they have taken in the Medical inspection of their pupils, and for the great help which they have rendered in facilitating the work.

21. STATISTICAL TABLES.

The Statistical Tables required by the Board of Education are appended.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES A. M. CLARK,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

AREA : WALSALL C.B.

Table I.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED YEAR ENDED 31ST
DECEMBER, 1931.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants	1,416	
Intermediates	1,793	
Leavers	1,571	
Number of other Routine Inspections	—	
		Total 4,780

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	5,819	
Number of Re-Inspections	792	
		Total 6,611

Table II.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1931.

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Requiring Treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring Treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
MALNUTRITION	6	15	22	—
SKIN.				
Ringworm				
Scalp	1	—	22	—
Body	—	—	14	—
Scabies	4	—	80	—
Impetigo	15	2	306	—
Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	13	4	219	—
EYE.				
Blepharitis	18	7	55	—
Conjunctivitis	8	3	241	—
Keratitis	—	—	21	—
Corneal Opacities	1	—	10	—
Defective Vision (excluding squint)	238	72	30	—
Squint	43	29	8	—
Other Conditions	7	—	17	—

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Requiring Treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring Treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
EAR.				
Defective Hearing	41	3	45	—
Otitis Media	10	9	110	—
Other Ear Diseases	1	2	100	—
NOSE AND THROAT.				
Enlarged Tonsils only	245	316	65	—
Adenoids only	43	15	25	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	81	10	235	—
Other Conditions	2	4	4	—
DENTAL DEFECTS	795	123	77	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) ..	6	24	149	—
	2	2	1	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH				
HEART AND CIRCULATION.	5	17	21	—
Heart Disease—Organic	2	29	13	—
Functional	19	25	53	—
Anæmia				
LUNGS.	41	44	888	—
Bronchitis	1	15	23	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases				
TUBERCULOSIS.	2	—	—	—
Pulmonary—Definite	3	5	8	—
Suspected	—	2	4	—
Non-Pulmonary—Glands	—	—	—	—
Spine	—	1	—	—
Hip	—	—	—	—
Other Bones	—	—	1	—
and Joints	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	2	—
Other Forms				
NERVOUS SYSTEM.	—	—	12	—
Epilepsy	1	6	21	—
Chorea	—	10	62	—
Other Conditions				
DEFORMITIES.	2	—	1	—
Rickets	31	1	9	—
Spinal Curvature	36	55	8	—
Other Forms				
	79	74	1,988	—
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES. ..				

Table II.—continued.

B. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

Group. (1)	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment. (4)
	Inspected. (2)	Found to require Treatment. (3)	
Code Groups—			
Entrants	1,416	229	16·17
Intermediates	1,793	308	17·18
Leavers	1,571	270	17·19
TOTAL (Code Groups)	4,780	807	16·88

Table III.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

				Boys	Girls	Total
Children suffering from the following types of Multiple Defect, i.e. any combination of Total Blindness, Total Deafness, Mental Defect, Epilepsy, Active Tuberculosis, Crippling or Heart Disease				7	3	10
BLIND (Including partially Blind).	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally Blind	At Certified Schools for the Blind ..	..	2	3	5
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions .. .. .	..	1	—	1
		At no School or Institution .. .. .	..	—	—	—
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially blind.	At Certified Schools for the Blind or Partially Blind .. .. .	..	2	—	2
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	6	7	13
		At other Institutions .. .. .	..	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution .. .. .	..	—	—	—
DEAF (including Deaf and Dumb and partially Deaf).	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf ..	..	7	3	10
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions .. .. .	..	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution .. .	..	—	1	1
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf or Partially Deaf .. .. .	..	1	—	1
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	5	5	10
		At other Institutions .. .. .	..	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution .. .. .	..	3	2	5
MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.	Feeble-minded.		At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	20	7	27
			At Public Elementary Schools ..	58	44	102
			At other Institutions	1	3	4
			At no School or Institution	23	18	41

Table III.—continued.

			Boys	Girls	Total
EPILEPTICS.	Suffering from Severe Epilepsy.	At Certified Schools for Epileptics ..	1	—	1
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	1	1
		At no School or Institution ..	5	—	5
	Suffering from Epilepsy which is not severe.	At Public Elementary Schools ..	16	12	28
		At no School or Institution ..	2	1	3
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.	Active pulmonary tuberculosis (in- cluding pleura and intrathoracic glands).	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	3	3
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	2	4	6
	Quiescent or arrested Pulmonary Tuber- culosis (including pleura and intra- thoracic glands).	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	16	21	37
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	—	—	—
	Tuberculosis of the Peripheral Glands.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	4	9	13
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	—	—	—
	Abdominal Tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	3	3
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	7	6	13
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	3	1	4

Table III.—continued

			Boys	Girls	Total
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE (continued).	Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints (not including deformities due to old Tuberculosis).	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	7	2	9
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	2	4	6
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	—	1	1
	Tuberculosis of other organs (skin, etc.).	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	3	1	4
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	—	—	—
	Delicate Children, i.e. all children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an Open-Air School.	At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	28	32	60
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	138	130	268
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Crippled Children (other than those with active Tuberculous disease) who are suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life.	At Certified Hospital Schools ..	1	1	2
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	95	122	217
		At other Institutions	1	—	1
		At no School or Institution ..	20	19	39
	Children with heart disease, i.e. children whose defect is so severe as to necessitate the provision of educational facilities other than those of the public elementary school.	At Certified Hospital Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ..	17	12	29
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ..	4	14	18

Table IV.

**RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1931.**

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment, during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp	22	—	22
Ringworm—Body	30	—	30
Scabies	22	—	22
Impetigo	1,155	—	1,155
Other Skin Diseases	82	—	82
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II) ..	990	—	990
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	158	—	158
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	2,172	—	2,172
TOTAL ..	4,631	—	4,631

**GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects,
treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).**

Defect or Disease. (1)	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private prac- titioner or at Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	746	—	—	746

Table IV.—continued

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM SPECTACLES WERE PRESCRIBED.

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	495
(b) Otherwise	—

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO OBTAINED OR RECEIVED SPECTACLES.

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	398
(b) Otherwise	—

GROUP III. Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total Number Treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total. (3)		
134	—	134	—	134

GROUP IV. DENTAL DEFECTS.

(1) Number of Children who were — Totals.

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :—

Routine Age Groups 5-14 .. 1,666

Specials 1,604

— 3,270

(b) Found to require treatment 3,005

(c) Actually treated 2,454

(2) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection 15

Treatment 466

— 481

(3) Attendances made by the Children for treatment 3,356

Table IV.—continued.**DENTAL DEFECTS**—continued.

(4) Fillings—					
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	383	
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	237	
				<hr/>	620
(5) Extractions—					
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	1,270	
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	4,786	
				<hr/>	6,056
(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions					
	—	—
(7) Other operations—					
Permanent Teeth	}	..	..	..	40
Temporary Teeth					

GROUP V.**UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(i) Average number of Visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses					
	..	..	..	..	15.82
(ii) Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by the School Nurses					
	..	..	..	..	45,257
(iii) Number of individual Children found unclean					
				..	4,447
(iv) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority					
		—
(v) Number of cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken—					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	..	..	..		—
(b) Under School Attendance By-Laws			..		—

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Table I.
RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS	492
B. OTHER INSPECTIONS	207
Number of Special Inspections	—
	<hr/>
Total ..	699
	<hr/>

Table II A.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1931.

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Requiring Treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring Treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
MALNUTRITION	—	—	—	—
Uncleanliness (See Table IV., Group V.)				
SKIN.				
Ringworm—Scalp	—	—	—	—
Body	—	—	—	—
Scabies	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	1	1	—	—
EYE.				
Blepharitis	—	1	—	—
Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	1	—	—
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ..	21	13	—	—
Squint	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	1	3	—	—
EAR.				
Defective Hearing	—	—	—	—
Otitis Media	1	1	—	—
Other Ear Diseases	—	—	—	—

Table II. A.—continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Requiring Treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring Treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
NOSE AND THROAT				
Enlarged Tonsils only	9	15	—	—
Adenoids only	—	—	—	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	—	1	—	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous)	—	1	—	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH	—	2	—	—
DENTAL CARIES	42	4	—	—
HEART CIRCULATION.				
Heart Disease—Organic	1	2	—	—
Functional	—	2	—	—
Anæmia	—	2	—	—
LUNGS.				
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Disease	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS.				
Pulmonary—Definite	—	—	—	—
Suspected	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Non-Pulmonary—				
Glands	—	—	—	—
Spine	—	—	—	—
Hip	—	—	—	—
Other Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM				
Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
Chorea	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	—	4	—	—
DEFORMITIES.				
Rickets	—	1	—	—
Spinal Curvature	4	5	—	—
Flat Foot	4	27	—	—
Other Forms	3	8	—	—
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES ..	—	1	—	—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Being that for the year ended December 31st, 1931.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit to you a Report for the year 1931, giving particulars of the work performed under your direction by the Inspectorial Staff of the Health Department.

Particulars of Nuisances and Other Matters reported by the Sanitary Inspectors.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Foul Drains, water closets, privies, ashpits, sinks, urinals, etc. ..	212	338	452	343	1345
Offensive accumulations	2	19	13	8	42
Animals kept as to be a nuisance ..	6	15	12	11	44
Black smoke, gas leakages etc ..	2	10	4	4	20
Unwholesome premises needing limewashing	47	51	60	60	218
Insufficient water closets, ashpits, drains	838	521	787	1190	3336
Dwelling houses needing repairs under Public Health Act, 1875 ..	176	163	187	105	631
Dwelling houses needing repairs under Housing Act, 1930 ..	—	—	3	—	3
Houses let-in-lodgings to comply with Byelaws	—	9	2	28	39
Dwelling houses overcrowded ..	12	15	31	15	73
Dwelling houses, verminous ..	6	12	20	16	54
Sundry	130	35	45	59	269
Dangerous Structures ..	8	23	37	29	97
Insufficient water supply	—	—	1	—	1
To BOROUGH SURVEYOR { Defective Spouting ..	—	—	—	1	1
Obstructed and Foul Street gullies and manholes	4	4	2	6	16
Obstructed storm water sewer ..	—	—	1	—	1
To cleanse ashpits	—	—	—	—	1991
Totals ..	1443	1215	1657	1875	8181

Nuisances on Books, and Number of Notices served.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS
No. of notices on books 31/12/30 ..	202	304	280	116	902
No. of Nuisances and other matters reported during the year ..	1443	1215	1657	1875	6190
No. of informal notices served during the year	692	646	765	724	2827
*No. of statutory notices served during the year	261	167	165	257	850
No. of Nuisances abated	1433	1313	1669	1827	6242
No. of notices not complied with December 31st, 1931	212	206	268	164	850
*Includes Notices for Housing repairs :—					
Public Health Act	69	26	30	25	150
Housing Act	—	—	3	—	3
Notices not complied with include					
Nuisances	15	29	18	12	74
Overcrowded dwelling-houses ..	23	46	73	12	154
Housing repairs, Public Health Act	67	33	22	11	133
Housing repairs, Housing Act ..	4	8	9	—	21
Insufficient drains	9	8	—	2	19
Insufficient water closets ..	53	40	58	65	216
Insufficient ashpits	20	15	41	33	109
†Workshops for liming	5	2	2	8	17
Sundry	16	25	45	21	107

† N.B. Notices issued in December, 1931.

WORK IN COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES.

(1) Additional Water Closets, Drains, &c. (New work)

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Water Closets	23	24	15	13	75
Urinals	3	—	—	—	3
*New Cisterns in W.C.'s	517	366	338	491	1712
New Soil Pipes	1	3	—	7	11
Anti-syphonage pipes	—	—	—	1	1
*Ashbins— Replacing Ashpits	530	312	497	661	2000
" worn-out bins	92	125	38	57	312
Connections to sewer	3	1	1	2	7
Intercepting traps	1	5	—	1	7
Drain traps	12	28	27	20	87
Inspection Chambers	8	13	5	10	36
Ventilating shafts	11	8	10	8	37
Fresh Air Inlets	1	1	—	—	2
Pipe drains, yards in length ..	237	406	192	303	1138
Sanitary sinks and waste pipes ..	25	23	16	6	70
S.S. Water laid on	—	5	—	3	8

* The provision of flushing cisterns to water-closets and the substitution of ashbins for ashpits has during the year been completed in twenty-five streets in different parts of the Borough.

(2) Repairs to Structures.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Trough water closets converted into water closets	—	—	—	15	15
Privies converted into W.C.'s ..	11	—	—	1	12
" " " Pail closets ..	2	—	—	—	2
Waste water closets converted into water closets	1	—	8	—	9
Privies repaired	1	—	—	4	5
Pail closets repaired	—	2	—	—	2
Water closets repaired	45	59	102	35	241
*W.C. pans fitted	125	108	51	159	443
" traps fitted	12	7	9	16	44
" flushing cisterns	38	36	109	70	253
Drain ventilating shafts	1	4	5	4	14
Soil pipes	—	—	—	2	2
Drains repaired	8	52	21	20	101
" cleared	77	62	68	73	280
Water closets cleared	4	8	41	16	69
Urinals tarred	1	—	—	—	1
Sinks repaired	10	1	2	2	15
" fitted with waste pipes ..	—	1	—	—	1
Drains disconnected	2	2	8	2	14
New covers to inspection chambers	4	7	2	6	19
Stoppers fitted to rodding eyes ..	4	1	2	1	8
Houses newly drained	1	7	—	1	9
Yards repaved	10	13	25	4	52
Gas mains repaired	2	5	3	—	10
Rain water cisterns cleansed ..	—	—	—	1	1
*Includes pedestals	50	35	26	21	132

(3) Other Work.

Accumulations of refuse removed ..	3	19	24	8	54
Nuisances from keeping of animals or poultry abated	5	20	19	9	53
Ditch or cesspool cleansed	4	2	1	3	10
Unwholesome premises limewashed	12	2	11	19	44
Sundry matters	5	4	6	2	17

Insanitary Structures Dispensed with.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards	Hatherston and Paddock Wards	Birchills and Pleck Wards	Bridge and Calmore Wards	TOTALS
Privies (replaced by W.C.'s) ..	—	—	1	—	1
Ashpits cut down and made into receptacles for ashbins	167	114	182	189	652
Ashpits dispensed with	148	88	108	227	571
W.C.'s	8	8	13	3	32

DRAIN TESTS.

165 drain tests were made, 11 being in connection with houses where infectious disease or other illness had occurred, 94 where nuisances were alleged, 17 rat-infested premises, 8 on application for sanitary certificates, 11 for testing new drains, and 24 for testing outfall from drain. The number of premises involved being 150 houses, 2 factories, 1 workshop, 1 laundry, 1 retail shop, 3 public houses, 2 clubs, 1 school, 1 bakehouse, and 1 block of offices.

In 46 of the tests, smoke was the agent used, in 50 drain grenades served, in 65 coloured water was applied, and in 4 cases the drains were tested by rodding.

In 1 case drains were opened for examination under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

50 defects were found as a result of drain testing, these defects were satisfactorily remedied.

ALTERATIONS TO DRAINS.

59 notices of alterations to drains were received, and the necessary inspections made under the provisions of Section 41 and 42, of the Walsall Corporation Act, 1925.

WORK DONE UNDER SECTION 36, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875, IN DEFAULT—

INSUFFICIENT WATER CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

The directions of the Health Committee where default was made in complying with notices for the provision of sufficient water closets and ashbins were carried into effect, by forwarding full particulars of the cases

to the Borough Surveyor, this resulted in the work being done under his direction at 47 properties, consisting of 147 houses as follows, viz.:—the water closet accommodation was made sufficient by (1) 21 water closets being repaired, and (2) 93 closets fitted with flushing cisterns, 81 ashbins were supplied replacing ashpits or worn-out bins, 2 sets of drains were repaired and made satisfactory at the expense of the owners.

HOUSES IMPROVED.

PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS
Houses repaired throughout under Housing Acts, 1925 and 1930 ..	7	7	35	—	49
Houses repaired throughout under Public Health Act	124	169	187	90	570
Lodging-houses repaired	—	2	—	1	3
Houses re-spouted	34	20	17	20	91
" whitewashed throughout ..	7	9	11	26	53
Verminous Houses Sprayed ..	9	12	29	16	66
Houses, sash cords fitted and win- dows repaired	6	6	12	9	33
" floors repaired	3	—	11	—	14
" other minor repairs	5	10	24	11	50
New Wash-houses	—	1	1	1	3
Wash-houses repaired	10	12	25	5	52
New Boilers and Fireboxes ..	2	1	6	4	13
Boilers and Fireboxes repaired ..	8	14	12	4	38
Number of Houses Improved.					
By repairs	195	235	326	173	929
" improving w.c. and ashbin accommodation	872	696	784	998	3350
" abatement of other nuisances ..	547	492	563	454	2056
TOTAL HOUSES IMPROVED	1614	1423	1673	1625	6335

Houses Closed or Demolished.

		Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS
Closed	Voluntarily ..	—	2	2	2	6
	By Order Housing ..	5	2	3	1	11
	Act, 1925 ..	—	1	2	2	5
	Ditto 1930 ..	5	5	7	5	22
Demolished	Voluntarily ..	1	2	2	2	7
	By Order Housing ..	5	2	1	—	8
	Act, 1925 ..	—	—	2	—	2
	Ditto 1930 ..	6	4	5	2	17
Total ..						

Overcrowding Abated.

		Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Houses vacated .. ..	..	14	4	7	9	34
No. of inmates reduced .. ..	..	9	7	25	9	50
Total ..		23	11	32	18	84

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS.

No application has been received during the year.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AT FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Rooms limewashed	1	55	12	41	109
Ventilation provided	—	1	—	—	1
New water closets	—	4	2	8	14
Water closets repaired	3	2	1	—	6
Flushing cisterns fitted or repaired..	2	1	2	—	5
Water closets—screening provided	1	1	2	—	4
Water closets, etc., limed and cleansed	—	—	1	2	3
Drains cleared or improved ..	3	6	2	2	13
Ashbins provided	—	1	—	4	5
Other defects remedied	—	3	1	2	6
Total ..	10	74	23	59	166

OUTWORKERS' HOMES.

Twenty-eight lists from manufacturers in the Borough and others from Birmingham, Westminster and Wolverhampton were received containing 62 names; 7 persons were employed in 4 other districts, viz.:—Walsall Rural District, Brownhills, Darlaston and Wednesbury Urban District.

The nature of the work and the number of persons employed were, viz.:

Trades.	No. of Lists	Contractors	OUTWORKERS.	
			Homeworkers.	
			Male	Female.
Clothing	27	5	15	22
Chains	2	—	2	—
Cart-geat (including buckles)	5	—	2	4
Brushes	1	—	—	5

Each outworker was visited, the home being found in a satisfactory state.

No infectious disease has occurred in an outworker's home during the past year.

PREMISES UNDER REGULAR INSPECTION.

	Bloxwich and Leamore Wards.	Hatherton and Paddock Wards.	Birchills and Pleck Wards.	Bridge and Caldmore Wards.	TOTALS.
Cowkeepers (Wholesale)	6	2	—	1	9
" (Purveyors of Milk) ..	12	6	1	2	21
Purveyors of Milk—					
Wholesale	—	1	—	—	1
Retail	21	15	15	18	69
Milk Shops	3	9	8	9	29
Purveyors of Milk from other dis- tricts selling Milk in the Borough	—	—	—	—	25
Wholesale (sterilizing factories) ..	1	3	2	—	6
Pasteurisers	—	2	—	—	2
Grade A Bottlers	—	2	1	—	3
Grade A Dealers	6	8	5	7	26
Bakehouses—factory	4	8	10	10	32
" workshop	6	3	11	9	29
Bakers and Confectioners' Shops	7	10	10	30	57
Slaughter-houses—registered ..	2	—	3	2	7
" licensed	5	1	5	9	20
Butchers' Shops	25	13	41	53	132
Ice-cream Shops	36	45	26	60	167
Fried Fish Shops	30	17	31	29	107
Fishmongers' Shops	3	3	2	6	14
Grocers' Shops	15	29	39	56	139
Green Grocers' & Fruiterers' Shops	10	17	39	39	105
Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes, Dining Rooms etc.	2	5	4	16	27
General (Food) Shops (Small Businesses)	63	133	210	169	575
Houses-let-in-lodgings	—	8	—	14	22
Common Lodging Houses	—	1	1	8	10
Workshops	29	84	45	146	304
Outworkers' homes	4	6	12	16	38
Rag and Bone Dealers	—	—	2	—	2
Hide and Skin Depot	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	291	431	523	709	1,979

REGISTERED PREMISES WHERE REPAIRS HAVE BEEN CARRIED INTO EFFECT.

FACTORIES. Sanitary accommodation has been improved at 15 factories as follows:—Four additional water-closets provided, 3 water-closets rebuilt, 3 water-closets repaired, 1 new flushing cistern fitted to water-closet, flushing cisterns repaired in 3 water-closets; at 4 factories the water-closets have been screened, and at 3 the water-closets limed and cleansed. Other improvements at factories include, viz.: drainage systems at 12 factories overhauled and repaired, several accumulations of refuse removed, etc.

WORKSHOPS. In 4 workshops the closet accommodation was improved by the provision of 2 additional water-closets, and 3 water-closets repaired, in 1 water-closet the flushing apparatus was overhauled. 5 ashbins were supplied. Means of adequate ventilation were provided at 1 workshop. 1 set of drains were cleared and repaired; also 109 workrooms have been whitewashed and cleansed.

LODGING HOUSES. Two houses repaired throughout, in 1 other minor repairs were effected, 17 houses limewashed throughout, 10 cases of overcrowding abated; 1 water-closet was repaired and the flushing cistern repaired; 8 sets of drains cleared and made satisfactory, 6 ashbins provided, and paving of 1 yard has been repaired. At 2 houses worn and dirty bedding was destroyed and replaced with sound sanitary bedding, and in 3 cases occupiers have ceased keeping animals in combined rooms.

FRIED FISH SHOPS. In six shops the open type pans for frying were replaced by pans of up-to-date pattern to the improvement of the rooms generally. Five shops were redecorated on the request of the Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

CONTRAVENTIONS.—11 cautions have been given as to contraventions of the above regulations, viz.: (1) not giving notice of disease in a carcase, (2) removal from slaughterhouse to shop of a carcase affected with disease before inspection, (3) animals slaughtered after 7 p.m. on one day and removed before 7 a.m. the next day, (4) exposing meat for sale—(a) on a stall not suitably covered over and screened, (b) in such a position in a room as to render the meat liable to contamination, (c) in rooms having dirty walls and

ceilings, (5) meat conveyed in vehicles not adequately protected, and (6) a person carrying meat at a wholesale stores and not wearing washable head-covering. In each case, following the caution, the person concerned was kept under observation with a view to further proceedings if the offence was repeated, but in no case have summary proceedings been taken.

NOTICES RECEIVED.

Notices of intended slaughter have been received as follows :—Three butchers gave notice “to slaughter at regular hours on fixed days each week,” in 1,558 cases “3 hours” notice of intention to slaughter was received (included in this number were 264 notices for “Sunday” slaughter and 22 for “night” slaughter, i.e. after 9 p.m.) 258 notices of slaughter were received from pig-feeders, 114 at private premises and the remainder at slaughterhouses. In 17 cases where slaughter took place on private premises, the pig feeders were informed by letter that any further slaughtering of pigs on their behalf must be carried out at a recognised slaughterhouse.

53 notices were received of immediate slaughter necessary owing to accidental injury, etc., and 39 notices of disease were received after slaughter. Examinations of carcasses at slaughterhouses were, viz. : Cattle 4,429, calves 1,442, swine 8,172, sheep and lambs 19,251 total, 33,294 carcasses.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Mr. Miner has been responsible for meat inspection generally ; Mr. Saville has regularly visited the 5 slaughterhouses in the Bloxwich Ward and the 2 slaughterhouses in Leamore Ward, and inspected the meat dressed there.

In addition to examinations at slaughterhouses, Mr. Miner reports that he has inspected the following meat or other foods at shops or stores during the year, viz :—

English Sheep Carcasses	..	..	..	..	176
Calf	..	..	..	..	87
Pig	..	..	..	..	157
Beef	..	..	..	..	554 quarters.
(Joints)	..	..	..	..	175 lbs.
(Tongues)	..	..	..	..	34
Pigs Frys	..	..	..	..	10

Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	177	fitches.
Hams	..	..	..	..	..	30	
Imported Sheep carcasses	..	..	..	..	..	1,691	
" Beef	..	..	..	..	..	163	quarters.
" Pork	..	..	..	..	..	2	legs
" Geese	..	..	..	..	..	5	
" Liquid Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	2	tins
Sheep carcasses examined for Caseous Lymphadenitis—							
From Argentine	..	..	..	..	..	389	
From W. Australia	..	..	..	..	..	626	
From New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	615	
Total Sheep examined for Caseous Lymphadenitis						1,630	
Total Sheep found to be affected						11	

Among other foods examined are livers kidneys, poultry, fish, fruit, vegetables, eggs, canned foods, etc.

UNWHOLESOME FOOD DESTROYED.

TUBERCULOUS.

BOVINE.—21 carcasses and all organs, 58 Heads, 2 Forequarters, 2 Hindquarters, 124 pieces of Beef and trimmings, 510 sets of Lungs, 132 Livers, 255 other organs.

PIGS.—10 Carcasses, 72 Heads, 72 sets of Fry, and 75 other organs.

OTHER DISEASES, UNSOUND, ETC.

BOVINE.—9 carcasses and all organs, 4 Heads, 1 Forequarter, 5 pieces of Beef, 68 sets of Lungs, 422 Livers, 98 other organs.

PIGS.—9 Carcasses and all organs, 1 Head, 4 pieces of Pork, 24 Sets of Fry, 24 other organs.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—9 Carcasses and all organs, 1 piece of Mutton, 803 Livers, 16 Plucks, 5 other organs.

IMPORTED MEAT. 11 Sheep carcasses, 1 Leg of Lamb.

BRAWN.—6 lbs.

BACON.—Several pieces.

GEESE.—5.

RABBITS.—10 English.

HALIBUT.—1.

PLAICE.—3 boxes.

COD.—2 boxes.

ROE.—7 boxes.

PRAWNS.—2 tins.

DATES.—4 boxes.

TOMATOES.—6 boxes.

DAMSONS.—1 hamper.

Canned Goods.

FISH.— 9 tins.

MEAT.—55 tins.

TOMATOES.—225 tins.

FRUIT.—224 tins.

CONDENSED MILK.—226 tins.

OTHER FOODS.—36 tins. LIQUID EGGS.—2 tins.

Summary of Weight.

English Meat.

BOVINE, Tuberculous	25,518 lbs.	} 28,863 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
PIGS, "	..	..	3,345 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
BOVINE, Other Diseases	12,826 lbs.	} 16,287 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
PIGS, "	..	..	1,253 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
SHEEP, "	..	..	2,208 "

Imported Meat. Mutton 609 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. 609 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

OTHER FOODS.	Rabbits	22 lbs.	} 2,152 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
	Fish	..	..	211 "
	Eggs	..	..	25 "
	Canned Goods	..	1,330 $\frac{1}{2}$ "		
	Poultry	..	..	30 "
	Bacon	..	..	11 "
	Brawn	..	..	6 "
	Damsons	..	..	84 "
	Dates	..	..	280 "
	Tomatoes	153 "	

Total 47,913 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

With but few exceptions, these Unsound Foods were destroyed in the incinerator at the Public Works Depot, Wolverhampton Street.

The total weight of food destroyed was nearly $21\frac{1}{2}$ tons, of this, 94.23 per cent. by weight were English carcasses, meat, livers, lungs, etc., inspected at time of slaughter, 63.93 per cent. being affected with Tuberculosis and 36.07 per cent. with other diseases. Imported meat to the extent of 1.28 per cent., and other foodstuffs, such as fish, fruit, rabbits, eggs, canned goods, etc., equalling 4.49 per cent., make the total. Notices of disease in English carcasses observed during slaughter (as required by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations) were received in 39 cases only, the bulk of foodstuffs was surrendered to the Sanitary Inspectors for destruction at time of inspection; no formal seizure was made.

FOODS AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

218 articles were obtained in the year and were submitted as samples to the Public Analyst; of these, 126 articles selected from purchases of small lots of goods (generally groceries) were submitted to the Analyst informally and 92 samples (milk) were taken formally under the Act. Full particulars as to description of samples will be found in the Public Analyst's report.

Three samples were adversely reported on by the Public Analyst, viz.:—Two samples of Milk Nos. 82 and 86, were certified, No. 82 to contain 4.70 per cent. added water, and No. 86 to be 3.3. per cent. deficient in cream; in each case the vendor was severely cautioned, further samples proved satisfactory. A sample of Cream, No. 91, was reported to be adulterated with a starchy substance; a private person brought a small carton to the Office, and complained of a few solid grains in the cream. The Sampling Officer took a sample (No. 124) from the Dairyman and this was genuine.

In one case it was necessary to request a milk seller to comply with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act 1915, by conspicuously inscribing on the vehicle from which milk was retailed, his name and address. The request was complied with at once.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1923.

Information as to dealers in designated milks and results of examinations of milk are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

HANDBILLS. Following the issue of handbills with reference to Fresh Apples (imported) and Imported Raw Tomatoes, a printed leaflet was circulated to 229 traders giving short particulars of what is necessary when imported foods, such as Fresh Apples, Raw Tomatoes, Eggs (Hen or Duck eggs in shell), Dried Eggs, Currants, Sultanas, Raisins, Oat Products (oatmeal, rolled oats, oat flour and groats), and Honey, are exposed for sale etc. In December a handbill was circulated to 35 fishmongers including market stallholders, calling their attention to the requirements of No. 8 Order, 1931, which provides that "any imported frozen or chilled salmon or imported frozen or chilled sea trout, or any imported salmon or sea trout which has been subject to any process of freezing or chilling prior to importation must on exposure for sale etc., bear an indication of origin."

Mr. E. F. Miner, the Meat Inspector, who is specially appointed under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, has given close attention to the various requirements as to marking, with his other duties. The Assistant Sanitary Inspectors are instructed to keep a sharp lookout for articles included under the various Marking Orders, and to report any cases of neglect in marking or other contraventions coming to their notice.

In the retail markets held on Tuesdays and Saturdays, the enforcement of the Orders has been well maintained, a Sanitary Inspector is on duty definitely for market inspection.

In no case has there been any contravention found as regards exposure of eggs with the marking removed.

No summary proceedings have been taken, a number of shopkeepers and stallholders have been warned as to neglect in marking fresh apples (imported) and raw tomatoes (imported).

Samples of honey have been submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, and in no case has he reported that honey sold as English Honey is not as described.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACT, 1928.

There has, during the year, been an increase in the quantity of foodstuffs on sale in the Borough graded under the regulations made by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and which are packed in containers bearing the grade designation mark.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Cowsheds, dairies and milk shops have been regularly inspected, and the requirements of the Order have been found to be complied with.

THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER OF 1925.

Under this Order Mr. A. E. Paley, Veterinary Inspector, reported on 15 cows on two farms. Two of the cows were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis, and were slaughtered. Mr. Paley gave post-mortem certificates that each cow had Tuberculous Emaciation. Compensation according to scale was paid to the respective owners.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CONTAMINATION OF FOOD INTENDED FOR SALE.

Special attention has been given to all food stores, food shops, etc., to which the requirements of Section 72 of the Public Health Act, 1925, apply. 1,583 visits were made and a number of contraventions of the Section were discovered.

The following is a list of remedial measures, viz.:—

- (a) At 2 shops (unsuitable) the sale of food was given up.
- (b) The sale of second-hand clothing from a food shop ceased.
- (c) A room where the preparation of food was carried on and with which a water-closet communicated, was made into a store for food contained in receptacles so closed as to exclude all risk of contamination.
- (d) The interiors of 3 rooms were repaired.
- (e) In 34 cases interior walls and ceilings were whitewashed, cleansed or purified, and
- (f) At many small shops doing a mixed business including foodstuffs, a thorough cleansing of floors, shelves, counters and spaces beneath windows and counters was carried out following the Sanitary Inspector's visit.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

SAMPLES.—6 samples of Fertilisers and 4 of Feeding Stuffs, have been obtained informally, and the Agricultural Analyst has certified that each sample is genuine. For particulars of Analyses see Analyst's report.

On no occasion have I been required to take action as "official sampler," although there are a number of farmers and shopkeepers who buy, or deal in considerable quantities of Fertilisers and of Feeding Stuffs.

The requirements of Section 6 of the Act, with respect to the furnishing of a Statutory Statement with any Fertiliser or Feeding Stuff when sold by retail, have been generally complied with.

HANDBILL.—A handbill giving particulars of the arrangements made by the Health Committee for enabling purchasers to obtain an analysis of any Fertiliser or Feeding Stuff in respect to which a warranty has been given by the seller, has been circulated to Cow-keepers, Farmers and Secretaries of Allotments.

Samples would be taken on payment of the following fee or fees, viz.:—

Where amount of the consignment is up to	1 ton	..	..	1/-
"	"	"	1 to 2 tons	.. .. 2/-
"	"	"	2 tons and upwards	2/6

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

FISH FRYERS.

There are now 107 Fishfryers in the Borough, Four additional businesses have been established with the consent of the Health Committee at, viz.:—No. 245 Broad Lane, Bloxwich; No. 163 Darlaston Road, and the Australian Cafe, Birmingham Road, Great Barr, and No. 107, Dale Street, Walsall.

In four cases where application for consent was sought strong representations objecting to the establishing of the business of fishfrying were made by persons residing within a radius of 250 yards of the proposed shop; in two cases, the premises were quite unsuitable for the trade, and in one case the owners refused to allow the conversion of the house to use for fishfrying. The Health Committee in these circumstances did not grant consent in the seven applications above set out.

In addition to the Fishfryers, there are only three other premises in the Borough where an offensive trade is established, viz.:—2 Rag and Bone Dealers and 1 Hide and Skin Depot.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Only 156 special visits have been made under this Act. The prompt attention given to any complaint of infestation affords little opportunity for increase of vermin on the premises visited. Proprietors of any business in foodstuffs, the presence of which would encourage rats or mice, appear to take all measures practicable for ensuring freedom from such pests, and a continual vigilance prevents any infestation becoming serious.

Where there is any evidence of rats, etc. in private dwellings, attention is first given to the condition of the drainage system, and second to any particular faults in structure by which rats may gain access to the interior of rooms, etc.

In September, following a request from Veterinary Inspectors from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, special action was taken at a farm where an outbreak of foot and mouth disease occurred; the measures adopted for rat extermination at this farm were highly successful.

During National Rat Week, when the economic and hygienic danger arising from rats and mice was widely advertised, only three persons occupying private premises in the Borough sought advice and assistance. Infestations have been found on allotments, and were somewhat serious on three allotments; during July a number of plot holders found rows of peas damaged, traps were loaned and suitable baits were supplied for combating the trouble.

With these exceptions, there is no evidence of rats or mice in any considerable number anywhere in the Borough.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

INSPECTIONS—BOATS.

Number of Boats inspected	39
Number of Boats conforming with Acts and Regulations ..	38
Number of Boats with one or more infringements ..	1

NATURE OF INFRINGEMENT.

Dilapidations	1
	<hr/>
Total ..	1
	<hr/>

Infringements remedied	1
--------------------------------	---

Remedial measures for contraventions were obtained by issuing a "Blue Notice" form.

No case of Infectious Disease has been found on the boats.

OCCUPANTS.

Number of Men on Boats	..	..	..	..	..	51
Number of Women on Boats	..	..	..	..	..	37
Number of Children on Boats—						
under 5 years of age	..	..	..	..	..	15
over 5 and under 12 years	..	..	..	..	..	31

The total registered accommodation on the 39 boats was for $142\frac{1}{2}$ adults, and the total number occupying equalled 111 adults.

21 boats had fore-cabins, 16 of which were in use as sleeping places.

The condition of the boats may be classified as : 33 good, 5 fair, and 1 poor.

The occupants appeared to be in good health.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS ETC.

The Theatres and Cinemas have each been visited several times during the year, and at an inspection made on the 29th July, 1931, by the special Sub-Committee of the Council, were found to be in a satisfactory condition. A number of minor defects in sanitary accommodation, etc., were remedied immediately on the attention of the management being called to same.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DISINFECTION OF BEDDING, ETC.

The “ Thresh ” steam disinfector was used for disinfecting the following articles, viz. :—

Beds	..	..	..	..	366
Bolsters	..	..	..	..	220
Pillows	..	..	..	..	631
Blankets	..	..	..	..	597
Sheets	..	..	..	..	454
Counterpanes	..	..	..	..	256
Other Articles	..	..	..	..	946

Totals	..	3,470
--------	----	-------

No. of days Disinfector was used	..	..	..	..	96
No. of persons supplied with Lime Brushes	..	..	..	..	1,640
No. of persons supplied with Lime	..	..	..	..	4,937
No. of persons supplied with Disinfectants	..	..	..	..	1,817

INFECTED HOUSES, DECEMBER 31st, 1931.

		Bloxwich and Leamore	Hatherton and Paddock	Birchills and Pleck	Bridge and Caldmore	Total
Scarlet Fever	..	1	1	1	3	6
Pneumonia	.. ..	2	—	3	—	5
Polio Encephalitis	..	—	1	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica		—	—	1	—	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		3	2	5	3	13

MILEAGE IN CONNECTION WITH INFECTIOUS CASES.

Light Van	5,329 miles
Ambulance (Hospital Street)	2,789 miles

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Act under which Proceedings were taken.	NATURE OF OFFENCE.	REMARKS.
Public Health Act, 1875, Section 112. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Section 51. Order made by Walsall Town Council, 11th May, 1914. Ditto.	Unlawfully did without the consent of the Sanitary Authority, establish and carry on an offensive trade, to wit, the trade of a fish fryer, between the 22nd October, 1929 and 20th February, 1931.	Fined 10/-
	Unlawfully did, without the consent of the Sanitary Authority, carry on an offensive trade, to wit, the trade of a fish fryer, on the 20th April, 1931.	Second Offence—Fined 20/-
Public Health Act, 1875.	Nuisance from defective roof, spoutings, sinks, etc. at Nos. 11, 13, 15 Bloxwich Road.	Order made to abate nuisance within 21 days with costs (8/6).

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS—continued.

Act under which Proceedings were taken	NATURE OF OFFENCE	REMARKS
Walsall Corporation Act, 1930, Section 106.	<p>Tents, Vans, Sheds or similar structures used for human habitation placed or kept on land situate within the borough without the previous approval of the Corporation. On land situate in:—</p> <p>Willenhall Lane, Bloxwich (7 persons). Bentley Lane, Bloxwich (1). New Street, Bloxwich (1). Goscote (1). Blakenall Heath (1). Miner Street (1). Freers Yard, George Street (1).</p>	<p>Thirteen persons summoned. On the date of hearing, 24th November, 1931, persons at New Street, Bloxwich, and Goscote had removed and the summonses against them were struck out. The 11 remaining summonses were adjourned for 8 weeks; and on the 19th January, 1932, one defendant at Willenhall Lane, one at Bentley Lane, Bloxwich, and one at Blakenall Heath, having removed, the summonses against them were struck out, the remaining 8 were adjourned for 4 weeks. At the adjourned hearing on 16th February, 1932, two defendants from Willenhall Lane, having removed, the summonses against them were struck out, and the remaining 6 defendants were each fined 10/-, and warned that if they persisted in their offence they were rendering themselves liable to a penalty of £1 per day during which the offence continued.</p>
Housing Act, 1925.	<p>4 Defendants. Non-compliance with Notice of Closing Order Operative requiring each tenant to cease to inhabit the house in his occupation. Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7 in 3 Court, Shortacre Street.</p>	<p>Orders made to quit the dwelling-houses within 28 days. (Houses vacated within that time.)</p>

CONCLUSION

The number of structural improvements has been well maintained and close attention given to the enforcement of all regulations, orders, or bye-laws relating to registered premises or trades, with special attention to all premises where foods are in preparation for sale, or for sale. The work preparatory to the inquiry held respecting James Street Clearance Area, and matters arising thereon since, have called for much time and thought generally.

There have been no changes in the Inspectorial Staff during the year. The districts allotted to the Sanitary Inspectors were somewhat enlarged by the extensions of the Borough as from 1st April 1931.

The work for improved sanitation in existing buildings has exceeded that in any previous year, due largely to the policy of the Health Committee in the consideration given to property owners. Where considerable expense would be caused by compliance with notices and in any case of representation of hardship, the Committee have, wherever practicable, given an extended period for compliance, and in practice this has proved a wise course, with but very few exceptions where a promise has been given that the notice shall be complied with within the extended period, the persons concerned have kept such promise, and the work has been carried out to the satisfaction of the Health Committee without need of further action.

In conclusion I would gratefully acknowledge the kindness and support I have always received in the discharge of my duties from the Health Committee, Chief Officials, and my colleagues in the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

(Member of the Sanitary Inspector's Association),

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Health Department,
Council House, Walsall.

7th March, 1932.

REPORT

For the year ended 31st December, 1931, on the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928, and the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1931. 218 samples were submitted to me for analysis during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. 217 samples were taken by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and one sample by the Medical Officer of Health.

126 samples were purchased without the formalities of the Acts.

92 samples were purchased with the formalities of the Acts. Table A gives particulars of the samples. In the previous year, 1930, 233 samples were submitted.

Table A.

NATURE.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Milk	92	2
Butter	28	—
Sausage	13	—
Jam	11	—
Cheese	7	—
Pickles	5	—
Vinegar	4	—
Pepper	4	—
Honey	3	—
Dripping	2	—
Cod Liver Oil	1	—
Dried Milk	1	—
Sugar	1	—
Lard	3	—

Table A—continued.

Nature.	Number Analysed.	Number Adulterated.
Tomato Ketchup	1	—
Margarine	4	—
Coffee	1	—
Coffee Extract	2	—
Cream	11	1
Mixed Dried Fruit	5	—
Apricots	1	—
Raisins	1	—
Sultanas	2	—
Prunes	2	—
Currants	2	—
Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk (sweetened) ..	5	—
Condensed Full Cream Milk (unsweetened)	4	—
Condensed Full Cream Milk (sweetened)	2	—

1.37% of the samples were adulterated. The percentages of adulteration for 1930, 1929 and 1928 were : 0.43%, 2.08% and 0.86% respectively.

MILK.

92 samples were submitted, of which two, equivalent to 2.17%, were adulterated. The percentages of adulteration for 1930, 1929 and 1928 were 1%, 4.9% and 2.3% respectively. In 1923, my first annual report, the percentage of adulterated milks was 21.2%

The average composition of the 92 samples was as follows :—

Solids not fat	.. .. .	8.77%
Fat	.. .. .	3.62%
Total Solids	.. .. .	12.39%

Table B gives particulars of the adulterated samples :—

Table B.

Sample No.	Nature of Adulteration.	Result.
82 86	Added water 4.7%. 3.3% Deficient in Cream.	} *

None of the milks contained preservatives.

* See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 160

BUTTER.

28 samples were submitted. All were genuine and contained no preservative.

MARGARINE.

4 samples were submitted. All were genuine and contained no preservative.

SAUSAGE.

13 samples were submitted. All were genuine and contained no preservative.

CREAM.

11 samples were submitted. 10 samples were genuine and one sample was adulterated with a starchy substance.

Table C gives the analyses of the 10 genuine samples.

Table C.

Sample No.	Fat.	Boric Acid.
4	50.4%	Nil
60	*25.6%	"
64	*23.4%	"
100	47.3%	"
107	44.7%	"
124	47.3%	"
125	55.0%	"
148	39.6%	"
152	38.5%	"
198	34.1%	"

* Percentage of fat very low.

Table D gives the analysis of the one sample not genuine.

Table D.

Sample No.	Fat	Nature of Adulteration	Result
91	36.1%	The cream was adulterated with a starchy substance.	*

* See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 160

JAM.

11 samples were submitted. All were genuine. Three of the samples contained no preservative. Table E gives the amounts of preservative (sulphur dioxide) in 8 samples.

Table E.

Sample No.	Nature	Parts of Sulphur Dioxide per Million parts
25	Red Plum Jam	28.8
31	Yellow Plum Jam	12.8
63	Damson Jam	12.8
69	Apricot Jam	41.0
104	Golden Plum Jam with other fruit juice	10.5
108	Bramble Seedless Jam	32.0
110	Strawberry and Apple Jam ..	36.0
175	Strawberry Jam	16.0

MIXED DRIED FRUIT.

5 samples were submitted. All were genuine. Each sample contained the preservative sulphur dioxide. Table F gives the amounts of preservative (sulphur dioxide) present.

Table F.

Sample No.	Parts of Sulphur Dioxide per million parts.
61	115.2
116	48.0
144	243.0
149	294.4
176	576.0

PICKLES.

5 samples were submitted. All were genuine and contained no preservative.

(1)

OBSERVATIONS.

	1930	1930	1930	1931
	England and Wales	Boroughs	Walsall	Walsal
Number of Samples of Food and Drugs analysed per 1,000 of population ..	3.6	4.2	2.4	2.1

(2) The percentage of adulteration of food and drugs compared with the previous year, 1930, increased from .43% to 1.37%. In making this comparison it should be borne in mind that the purity of Walsall's Food Supply reached an exceptionally high standard in 1930. For the past year, 1931, the quality of Walsall's Food Supply was very satisfactory.

(3) At present, there is no law stating the minimum amount of fat which must be contained in cream. Quite recently, two samples of cream were submitted to me for analysis, one sample was labelled "Cream" and contained 47.3% of fat, the other sample was labelled "Pure Thick Cream" and contained only 21.0% of fat, a very poor cream, and, in my opinion, quite wrongly labelled with the intention of deceiving the Public.

I recommend that these facts with reference to cream be placed before the Ministry of Health.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, 10 samples were submitted as follows:—

Carbonate of Lime	..	..	..	1
Laying Meal	..	..	..	1
Bone Meal	..	..	..	2
Sulphate of Potash	..	..	..	1
Poultry Food	..	..	..	1
Meat and Bone Meal	..	..	..	1
Sulphate of Ammonia	..	..	..	1
Biscuit Meal with Meat	..	..	..	1
Fertiliser	..	..	..	1

All samples were genuine.

(Signed) FRANK E. THOMPSON,
A.R.C.S. Lond., F.I.C.
Public Analyst.

CONTENTS

General Health	PAGE	
Accommodation—Hospital ..	8, 23, 29	Disinfection 165-166
Acts and Bye-laws	40	District Medical Officers 36-37
Agricultural Produce Act, 1928 ..	161	Drainage 42, 151
Ambulance	23	Drain Tests 151
Area	9	Enteric Fever 31
Ashpits, Ashbins	44, 151-152	Extension of Borough 6
Atmospheric Pollution	47-48	Factories and Workshops .. 60, 154, 156
Bacteriological Examinations ..	25, 57-59	Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act 162, 163
Bakehouses	48	Fish Friers 48, 156, 163
"Better Health" Journal	59	Food and Drugs 58-59, 160
Births	9-11	Food Inspection .. 57-59, 158-160, 162
Birth Rate	7, 9, 22	Health, Education 59
Blind, Care of, etc.	26	Hospital Accommodation .. 8, 23, 29
Blind Persons, Classification ..	27-28	Hospital Co-ordination 8
Borough Extension	6, 54-55	Hostel—Salvation Army 56
Bronchitis	7	Houses-let-in-Lodgings 48
Butchers' Shops	48	Housing 49-55
Canal Boats Acts	164-165	Housing—Demolition Order Appeal 53
Cancer	7, 9	Housing—Clearance Scheme .. 54
Census Population	6	Housing—Extended portion of Borough 54-55
Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report 147-168		Housing Act, 1925 51
Chicken Pox	31	Housing Act, 1930 50-52
Clinics and Treatment Centres ..	23-25	Houses inhabited 9
Closet Accommodation	43-44	Houses inspected 45
Closing Orders	51	Houses closed 52-53, 153
Committee, Health	3	Houses demolished 50-53, 153
Committee, Maternity and Child Welfare	3	Houses (new) 9, 54
Committee, Education	3	Houses repaired 50-51, 53, 152
Common Lodging-Houses	48, 156	Houses (unfit) 49-50
Controlled Premises and Occupations 48, 155		Ice-cream Makers 48
Coroner's Inquests	10	Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act .. 153
Cowkeepers, Dairymen	57	Infant Mortality (Table V) 20
Council Houses	54	Infectious Disease—Ages and Wards (Table III) 16-17
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops 48, 57		Influenza 31
Dairy Cattle	57, 162	Inquests 10
Deaths	9, 11-12, 14-15	Insanitary Structures 151
Death Rates	7, 9, 22	Insufficient W.C.'s and Ashpits .. 151-152
Deaths at all ages	12-15	Introduction 6-8
Deaths in each Ward	12-13	Isolation Hospital 29-30, 32
Demolition Orders	50-53	James Street Clearance Scheme .. 54
Diarrhoea	10	Laboratory Examinations 25
Diphtheria	16, 30	Local Government Act 33
Diphtheria, Schick Test and Immunisation	30	Magisterial Proceedings 166-167

CONTENTS—continued

	PAGE		PAGE
Manor Hospital	33-36	Scarlet Fever	16, 30
Markets	58	Scavenging	43
Marriages	7, 9-10	Sewerage	42
Measles	10, 31	Slaughter-houses	48, 58, 157
Meat Inspection	58, 157-158	Slaughter—Notices for	157
Medical Examinations	25-26	Smallpox	29
Medical Relief Districts	36-37	Smoke Abatement	46-47
Mental Deficiency	84	Soot Gauge	47
Merchandise Marks Act	161	Staff	4, 5, 7
Milk Supply	57	Statistics, General	9
Milk (Condensed, Dried, etc.)	59	Statistical Summary	9
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	162	Structural work	150
Milk (Special Designations)	160	Superannuation Medical Examinations	25-26
Milk Producers, Traders and Purveyors	57	Tents, Vans and Sheds	49
Milk, Examinations	57, 58	Theatres and Music Halls	165
Milk, Shopkeepers	48	Tuberculosis Order (1925) Cattle	162
Milk, Pasteurised	57	Unhealthy areas	54
Milk, Grade "A"	57-58	Unwholesome food destroyed	158-160
Milk, Tuberculous	58	Vaccination	11, 36-37
Mortuary	8	Vaccination Districts	37
New Houses	9, 54	Venereal Diseases	25, 38-39
Nuisances abated	46, 143	Veterinary Inspector's Report	57
Nuisances, Notices, etc.	46, 147-148	Vital Statistics	9
Nursing Arrangements	25	Vital Statistics, past 10 years (Table VI)	21
Occupation Centre	86-87	Water	40-41
Offensive Trades	48, 163	Water Closets	44, 151-152
Overcrowding	147, 153	Whooping Cough	10, 31
Out-workers Premises	48, 154	Workshops	48
Population	6, 9	X-ray Equipment	8
Pneumonia	7, 17, 31	Maternity and Child Welfare	
Privies	43-44	Ante-Natal Clinics, etc.	24, 73-74
Public Health (Meat) Regulations	156-157	Children Act, 1908	82
Public Health (Preservatives etc. in food) Regulations	59	Committee	3
Rag Flock Act	49	Dental Treatment	74
Rainfall	47	Diarrhoea	10
Rateable Value	9	Health Education	59
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	164	Health Visitors, Record of visits, etc.	71
Refuse Collection	43	Hospital accommodation	61
Registrar-General's Returns— Causes of Death	14-15	Home visits	71
Premises under Inspection	48, 155-156	Infant Life Protection	82
Rivers and Streams	41	Infant Mortality	7, 9, 20, 67, 83
Salvation Army Hostel	56	Infant Welfare, Work and Centres	7, 24, 71-72
Sanitary accommodation at Theatres	165	Infant Feeding	78
Sanitary circumstances	40	Local Government Act	33
Sanitary Inspector's Return of Visits, etc.	45	Maternity Hospital	61-65
		Maternity Hospital—Conditions of Admission	64

CONTENTS—continued

	PAGE		PAGE
Maternity Hospital—Fees ..	61-62	Dental Clinic	110
Maternity Hospital, Statistics ..	65-66	Dental Treatment	134-135
Maternity Homes	83	Infectious Disease	31, 118-120
Maternal Mortality	9, 74-75	Medical Inspection	110-112
Medical Aid	77	Medical Treatment	113-118
Midwives	25, 80-81	Mental Defectives	128-134
Midwives' fees	79	Milk in Schools	124-125
Midwives' Inspections	79	Nursery Classes	122-124
Midwives' notifications	80	Open Air Education	120-122
Notification of Births	83	Orthopædic Clinic	24, 114-117
Nursing Homes	83	Physically Defective Children ..	126-127
Nursing Services	70	Poor Children's Country Holiday	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	78	Society	126
Orthopædic Treatment	75-76	Rheumatic Clinic	24, 127
Prematurity	67-70	Sanitary Condition	110
Puerperal Fever, etc.	23	School accommodation	109
Relief, Milk, etc.	77, 82	School Camp	125
Sanitary Defects	79	School Hygiene	109-110
Stillbirths	11, 83	Secondary Schools	135, 145-146
Ultra Violet Light Clinic	76-77	Schick Testing	119
Tuberculosis.		Smallpox	120
After-Care Committee	98, 106-107	Staff	108
Age—Sex and Wards	90	Statistical Tables	137-146
Committee, Tuberculosis Sub- ..	3	Ultra-Violet Light	117-118
Death Rate	7, 9, 91, 93	Uncleanliness	112-113
Dispensary, attendances at ..	25, 93-98	Public Analyst's Report	
Domiciliary Treatment	98	Butter	169, 171
Extent of Tuberculosis	91	Condensed Milk	170
Extra Nourishment	98	Cream	170-171
Home Nursing	101-102	Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act..	173
Home Visits	99-100	Margarine	170-171
Housing tuberculous patients ..	100-101	Milk	169, 170
Institutional Treatment	8, 29, 103-106	Other Foods	169-172
Mortality	89, 91-92, 106	Samples	169
Notifications	89	Statistical Tables	
Occupations	92	Causes of Death (All ages and Wards)	
Sanatorium Treatment	8, 102-106	Table I	12-13
"Sunshine Houses"	100-101	Causes of Death (Registrar-General's	
Surgical	23, 98-99, 102	Returns) Table II	14-15
Ultra-Violet Light	99	Cases of Infectious Disease notified	
		(All ages and Wards) Table III	16-17
		Statistical Summary—41 years	
		Table IV	18-19
		Infant Mortality Table V	20
		Vital Statistics (Past 10 years)	
		Table VI	21
		Birth and Death Rates, and Analysis	
		of Mortality Table VII	22
		Isolation Hospital—Cases admitted,	
		etc. Table VIII	32
School Medical Service			
Attendances	109		
Baths	110		
Beacon Residential School, Lichfield	129-135		
Committee, Education	3		
Co-operation of Parents and			
Teachers	111-112		
Clinics	23, 24, 110, 113-114, 117		
Crippled Children	114-117		